

# EECE 5639 Computer Vision I

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Lecture 8

**Corners, Sift Features**

**Project 2 is out.**

**First Midterm: February 12 (Hw 1 & 2 ; Project 1)**

Next Class

**Midterm Review**

Point Features  
Corners

# Corner Features

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Places where TWO strong edges meet.

They can be used for:

- Object tracking

- 3D triangulation (stereo)

- Object recognition

# Corners are useful

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Which city?



# Corners are useful

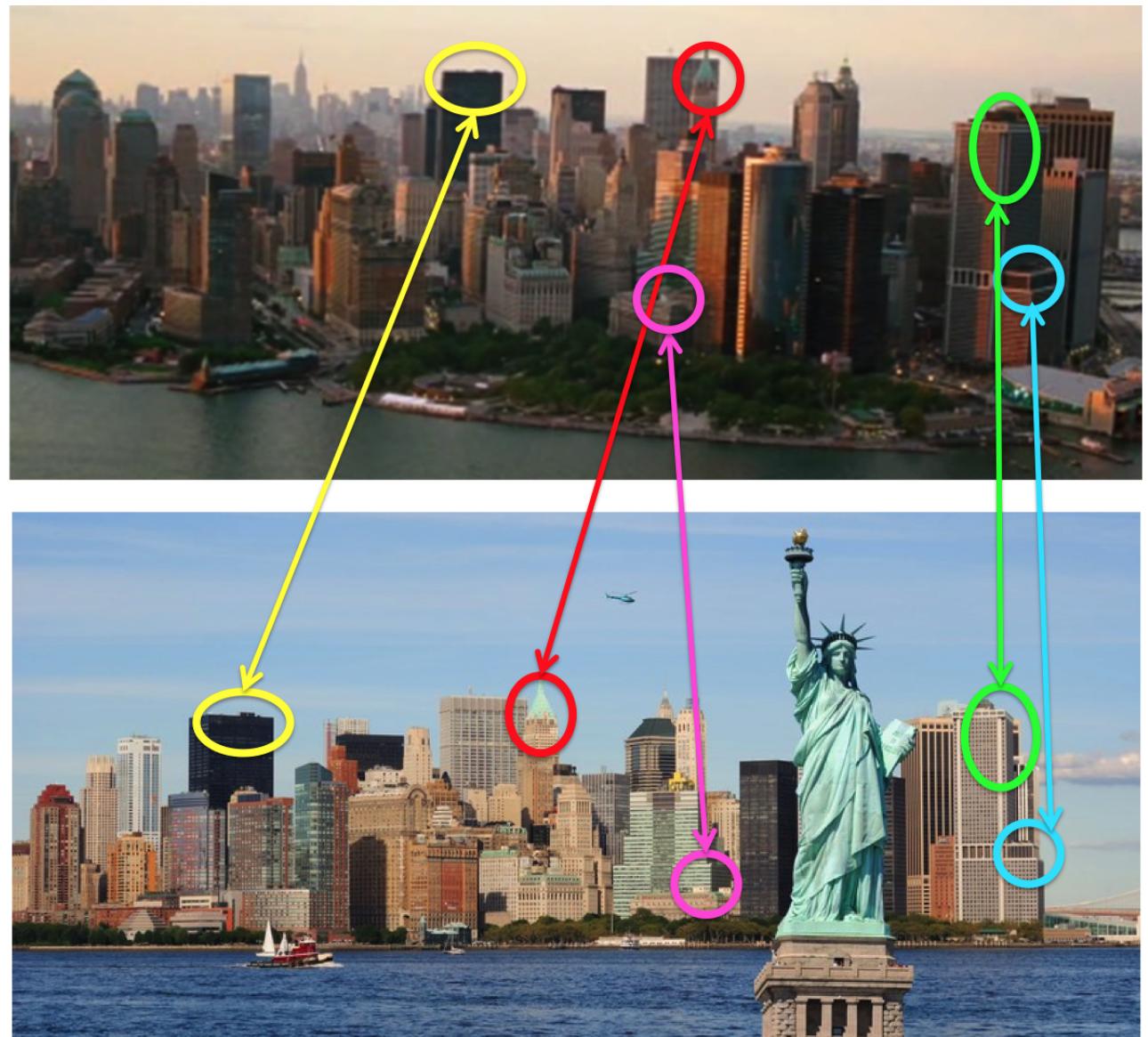
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Which city?



# Corners are useful

Which city?



# Corners are useful

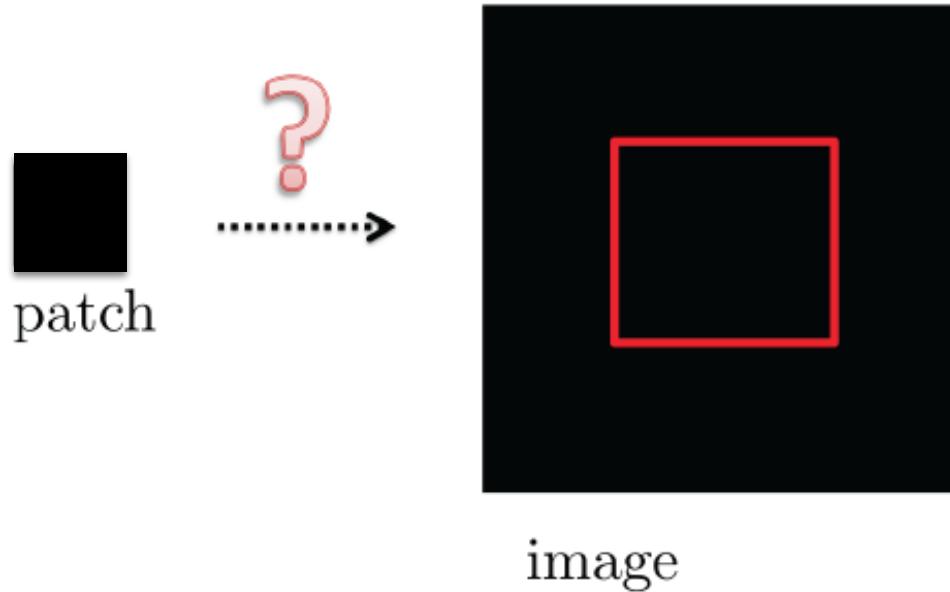
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Where can I find this pattern?



# Corners are useful

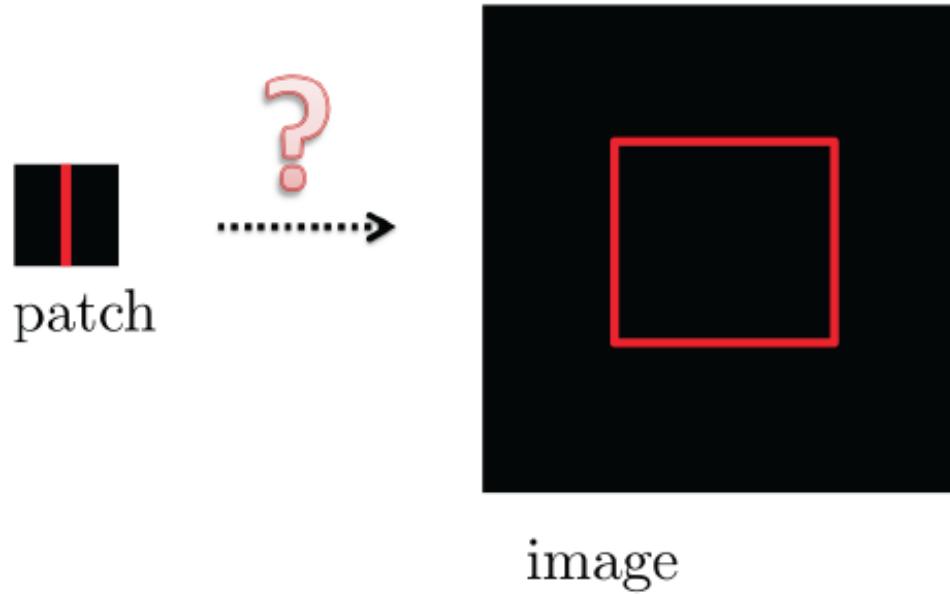
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Textureless patches are nearly impossible to localize.

# Corners are useful

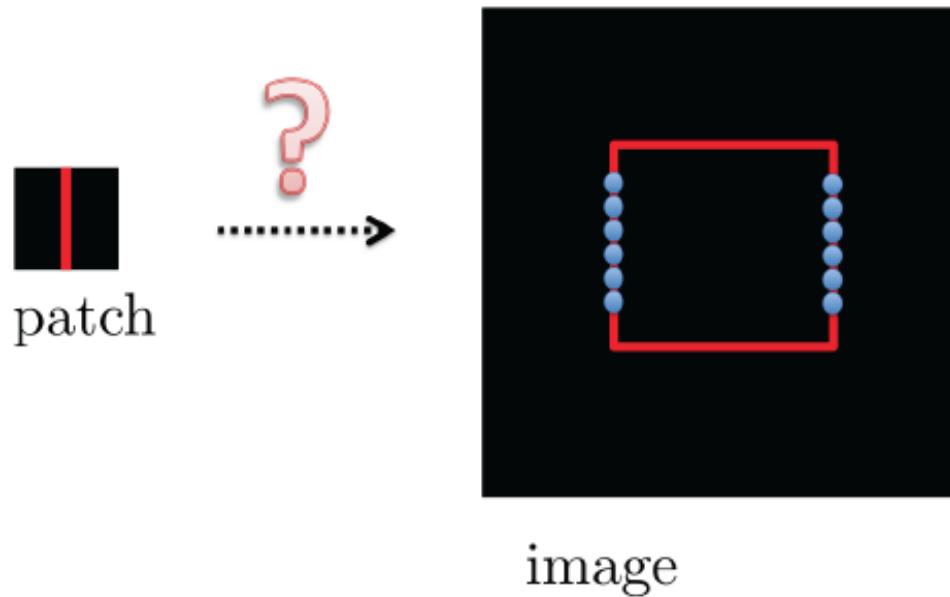
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Patches with large contrast are easier to find.

# Corners are useful

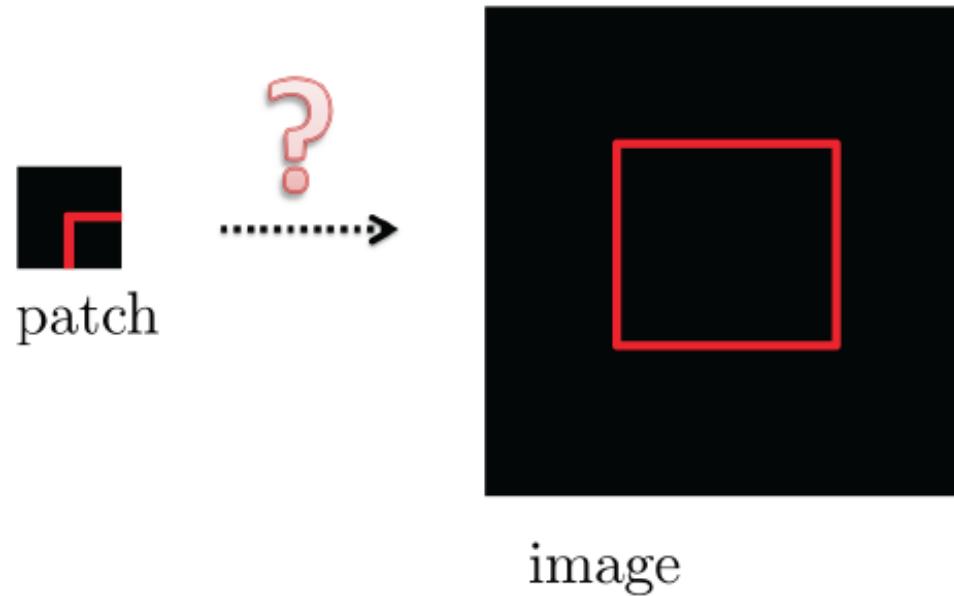
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Patches with large contrast are easier to find, but edges cannot be localized.

# Corners are useful

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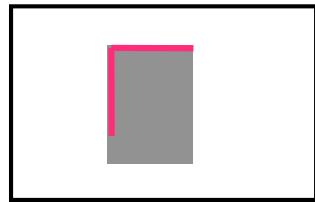
Corners are easier!!

# Detection of Corner Features

Need two strong edges:

Example:

Create the following matrix:



$$C = \begin{bmatrix} \sum E_x^2 & \sum E_x E_y \\ \sum E_x E_y & \sum E_y^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Either  $E_x$  or  $E_y$  but not both are large in a neighborhood of corner

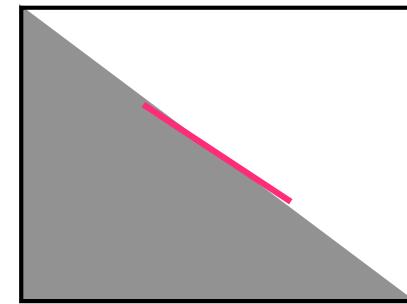
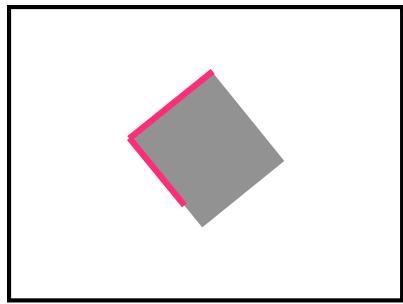


$$C = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

If  $\min(\lambda_1, \lambda_2) > T$   
There is a corner!

# Detection of Corner Features

What if the corner is not aligned with the image coordinate system?



$$C = \begin{bmatrix} \sum E_x^2 & \sum E_x E_y \\ \sum E_x E_y & \sum E_y^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

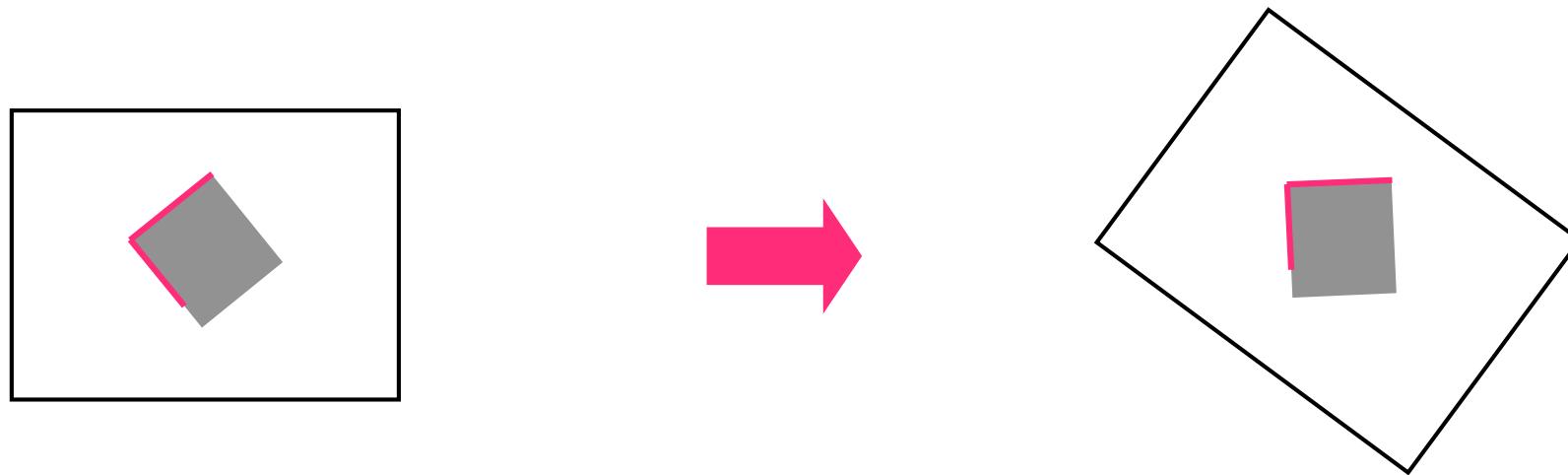
But this is also true  
for a slanted edge!

Both,  $E_x$  or  $E_y$  are large in the neighborhood of the corner

# Detection of Corner Features

Solution:

“Rotate” the corner to align it with the image coordinate system!



$$C = \begin{bmatrix} \sum E_x^2 & \sum E_x E_y \\ \sum E_x E_y & \sum E_y^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Detection of Corner Features

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How do we do this rotation?

Since  $C$  is symmetric, it can be diagonalized;  
the diagonalization is done by the rotation we need!

# Review: Matrix Eigenvalues & Eigenvectors

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Let

A be a SQUARE matrix

v be a column vector

$\lambda$  an scalar

If  $A.v = \lambda v$

Assuming the non trivial solution ( $v \neq 0$ )

v is an EIGENVECTOR of A

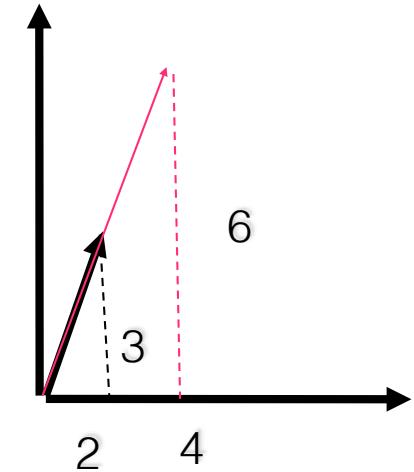
$\lambda$  is an EIGENVALUE of A

## Example:

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$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & -2 \\ 6 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$v = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$



$$Av = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & -2 \\ 6 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix} = 2 \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$v$  is an eigenvector with eigenvalue 2

# Finding Eigenvalues

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$$Av = \lambda v$$

$$Av - \lambda v = 0$$

$$(A - \lambda I)v = 0$$

$(A - \lambda I)v = 0$  is an HOMOGENEOUS LINEAR system of equations

# Finding Eigenvalues

---

$(A - \lambda I) v = 0$  is an HOMOGENEOUS LINEAR system of equations

$v$  is an EV if it is not the TRIVIAL solution  $v=0$

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = 0$$

Example:

---

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & -2 \\ 6 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\det(A - \lambda I) = \det \begin{vmatrix} 5 - \lambda & -2 \\ 6 & -2 - \lambda \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

$$(5 - \lambda)(-2 - \lambda) - (6)(-2) = 0$$

$$\lambda^2 - 3\lambda + 2 = 0 \Rightarrow \lambda = \frac{3 \pm \sqrt{9 - 8}}{2}$$

$$\lambda_1 = 1, \lambda_2 = 2$$

## Eigenvector for $\lambda = 1$

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$$\begin{array}{rcl} (5 - 1)v_{11} - 2v_{12} & = & 0 \\ 6v_{11} + (-2 - 1)v_{12} & = & 0 \end{array} \rightarrow \begin{array}{rcl} 4v_{11} - 2v_{12} & = & 0 \\ 6v_{11} - 3v_{12} & = & 0 \end{array}$$

$$\Rightarrow 2v_{11} = v_{12} \Rightarrow v_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

## Eigenvector for $\lambda = 2$

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$$\begin{array}{rcl} (5 - 2)v_{21} - 2v_{22} & = & 0 \\ 6v_{21} + (-2 - 2)v_{22} & = & 0 \end{array} \rightarrow \begin{array}{rcl} 3v_{21} - 2v_{22} & = & 0 \\ 6v_{21} - 4v_{22} & = & 0 \end{array}$$

$$\Rightarrow 3v_{21} = 2v_{22} \Rightarrow v_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Properties:

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$$\text{Trace}(A) = \sum \lambda_i$$

$$\text{Trace}(A) = \text{Trace} \begin{bmatrix} 5 & -2 \\ 6 & -2 \end{bmatrix} = 5 - 2 = 3$$

$$\sum \lambda_i = 1 + 2 = 3$$

# Properties:

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$$\det(A) = \prod \lambda_i$$

$$\det(A) = \det \begin{bmatrix} 5 & -2 \\ 6 & -2 \end{bmatrix} = 5(-2) - 6(-2) = 2$$

$$\prod \lambda_i = 1 \cdot 2 = 2$$

# Properties:

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If there is a NULL eigenvalue, A is not invertible:  $\det(A)=0$

A and  $A^2$  have the same eigenvectors.

If  $\lambda$  is an EV of A,  $\lambda^2$  is an EV of  $A^2$

# Symmetric Matrix

---

$$A = A^T \quad \text{With ev } v_i \text{ and } v_j \text{ and eval } \lambda_i \lambda_j$$

$v_i$  is an ev:

$$Av_i = \lambda_i v_i$$

Multiply both sides by  $v_j^T$

$$\underbrace{v_j^T A v_i}_{v_j^T A^T v_i} = \lambda_i v_j^T v_i$$

A is symmetric:

$$v_j^T A = v_j^T A^T$$

$v_j$  is an ev:

$$v_j^T A^T = \lambda_j v_j^T$$

$$\lambda_j v_j^T v_i = \lambda_i v_j^T v_i$$

# Symmetric Matrix

---

$$A = A^T \quad \text{With ev } v_i \text{ and } v_j \text{ and eval } \lambda_i \lambda_j$$

$$\lambda_j v_j^T v_i = \lambda_i v_j^T v_i$$

$$(\lambda_j - \lambda_i) v_j^T v_i = 0 \quad \rightarrow \quad v_i \perp v_j$$

The eigenvectors of  $A = A^T$  are orthogonal to each other

# Matrix Diagonalization:

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Let  $A$   $n \times n$  with:

$n$  DIFFERENT eigenvalues  $\lambda_1 \lambda_2 \dots \lambda_n$

$v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n$  eigenvectors

$$Av_i = \lambda_i v_i$$

Let  $P$   $n \times n$  with columns  $v_1, v_2, \dots, v_n$ :

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} & & & \\ | & | & & | \\ v_1 & v_2 & \dots & v_n \\ | & | & & | \end{bmatrix}$$

# Matrix Diagonalization

---

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} & & & \\ | & | & & | \\ v_1 & v_2 & \dots & v_n \\ | & | & & | \end{bmatrix}$$

$$AP = \begin{bmatrix} & & & \\ | & | & & | \\ Av_1 & Av_2 & \dots & Av_n \\ | & | & & | \end{bmatrix}$$

# Matrix Diagonalization

---

$$AP = \begin{bmatrix} & & & \\ | & | & & | \\ Av_1 & Av_2 & \dots & Av_n \\ | & | & & | \end{bmatrix}$$

$$Av_i = \lambda_i v_i \quad \rightarrow$$

$$AP = \begin{bmatrix} & & & \\ | & | & & | \\ \lambda_1 v_1 & \lambda_2 v_2 & \dots & \lambda_n v_n \\ | & | & & | \end{bmatrix}$$

# Matrix Diagonalization

$$AP = \begin{bmatrix} & & & \\ & | & | & | \\ \lambda_1 v_1 & \lambda_2 v_2 & \dots & \lambda_n v_n \\ & | & | & | \\ & & & \end{bmatrix} =$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} & & & \\ & | & | & | \\ v_1 & v_2 & \dots & v_n \\ & | & | & | \\ & & & \end{bmatrix} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & \lambda_n \end{bmatrix}}_{\Lambda}$$

$P$

# Matrix Diagonalization

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$$AP = P\Lambda$$

$$P^{-1}AP = P^{-1}P\Lambda$$

$$\Lambda = P^{-1}AP$$

The diagonalization matrix  $P$  is formed by the eigenvectors of  $A$ .

# Symmetric Matrix Diagonalization

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If  $A = A^T$ , then the columns of  $P$  are orthogonal and

$$P^{-1} = P^T$$

$$\Lambda = P^T A P$$

The matrix  $P$  represents a ROTATION

## Example:

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$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & -2 \\ 6 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\lambda_1 = 1, \lambda_2 = 2 \quad v_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \quad v_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \quad P^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} -3 & 2 \\ 2 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$P^{-1}A = \begin{bmatrix} -3 & 2 \\ 4 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \quad P^{-1}AP = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

## Example:

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$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 12 & 4 \\ 4 & 12 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{Symmetric!}$$

$$\lambda_1 = 16, \lambda_2 = 8$$

$$v_1 = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \\ \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \end{bmatrix} \quad v_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \\ \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$P = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} & -\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \\ \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} & \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

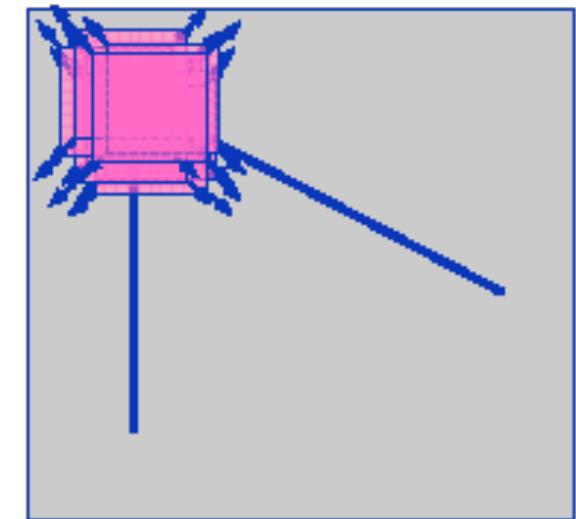
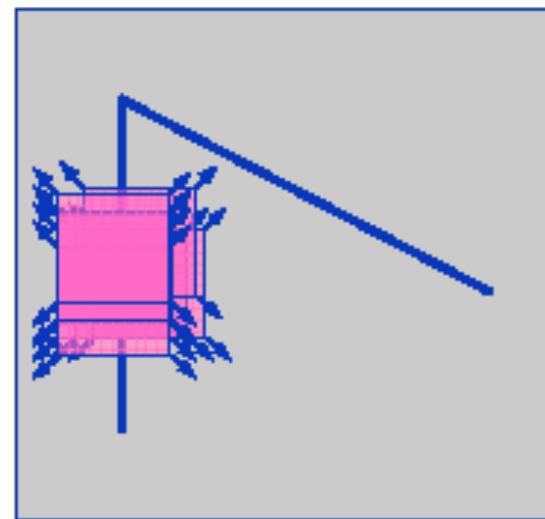
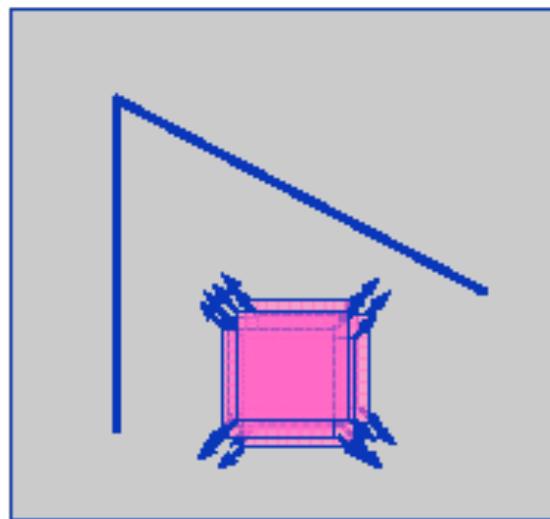
$$P^{-1} = P^T = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} & \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \\ -\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} & \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

45° rotation!

$$P^{-1}AP = \begin{bmatrix} 16 & 0 \\ 0 & 8 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Harris Corner Detector

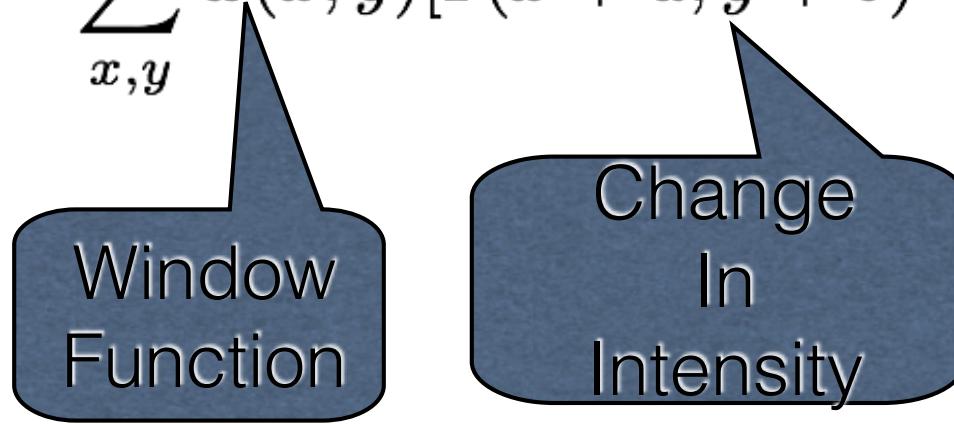
The Harris corner detector gives a mathematical approach for determining the amount of changes when we move in all directions a small window.



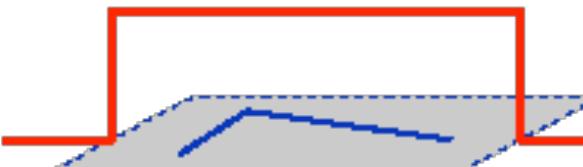
# Harris Corner Detector

Change of intensity for the shift  $[u,v]$ :

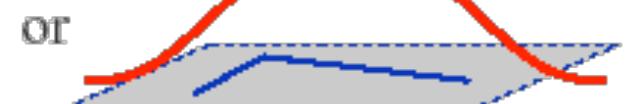
$$E(u, v) = \sum_{x,y} w(x, y)[I(x + u, y + v) - I(x, y)]^2$$



Window  $w(x,y)$ :



— 1 in window, 0 outside



Gaussian <sub>6</sub>

# First Order Approximation of $f(x,y)$ :

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$$f(x + u, y + v) = f(x, y) + u f_x(x, y) + v f_y(x, y) + \dots$$

# Harris Corner Detector

---

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{x,y} [I(x+u, y+v) - I(x, y)]^2 &\approx \\ \sum_{x,y} [I(x, y) + uI_x(x, y) + vI_y(x, y) - I(x, y)]^2 &= \\ \sum_{x,y} u^2 I_x^2 + 2uv I_x I_y + v^2 I_y^2 \end{aligned}$$

# Harris Corner Detector

---

$$\sum_{x,y} u^2 I_x^2 + 2uv I_x I_y + v^2 I_y^2$$

Rewrite as a Matrix:

$$\sum_{x,y} u^2 I_x^2 + 2uv I_x I_y + v^2 I_y^2 =$$

$$\sum_{x,y} \begin{bmatrix} u & v \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} I_x^2 & I_x I_y \\ I_x I_y & I_y^2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u \\ v \end{bmatrix} =$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} u & v \end{bmatrix} \left( \sum_{x,y} \begin{bmatrix} I_x^2 & I_x I_y \\ I_x I_y & I_y^2 \end{bmatrix} \right) \begin{bmatrix} u \\ v \end{bmatrix}$$

# Harris Detector

---

$$E(u, v) = \sum_{x,y} w(x, y)[I(x + u, y + v) - I(x, y)]^2$$

$$E(u, v) \approx [ \begin{array}{cc} u & v \end{array} ] M [ \begin{array}{c} u \\ v \end{array} ]$$

$$M = \sum_{x,y} w(x, y) [ \begin{array}{cc} I_x^2 & I_x I_y \\ I_x I_y & I_y^2 \end{array} ]$$

M is computed from the gradient components

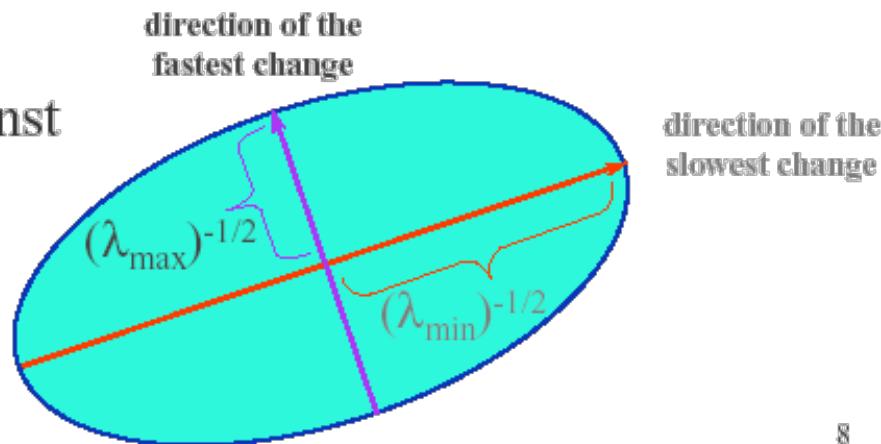
# Harris Detector

$$E(u, v) \approx [ \begin{matrix} u & v \end{matrix} ] M \begin{bmatrix} u \\ v \end{bmatrix}$$

Intensity change in shifting window eigenvalue analysis:

$\lambda_1, \lambda_2$  eigenvalues of M

Ellipse  $E(u, v) = \text{const}$

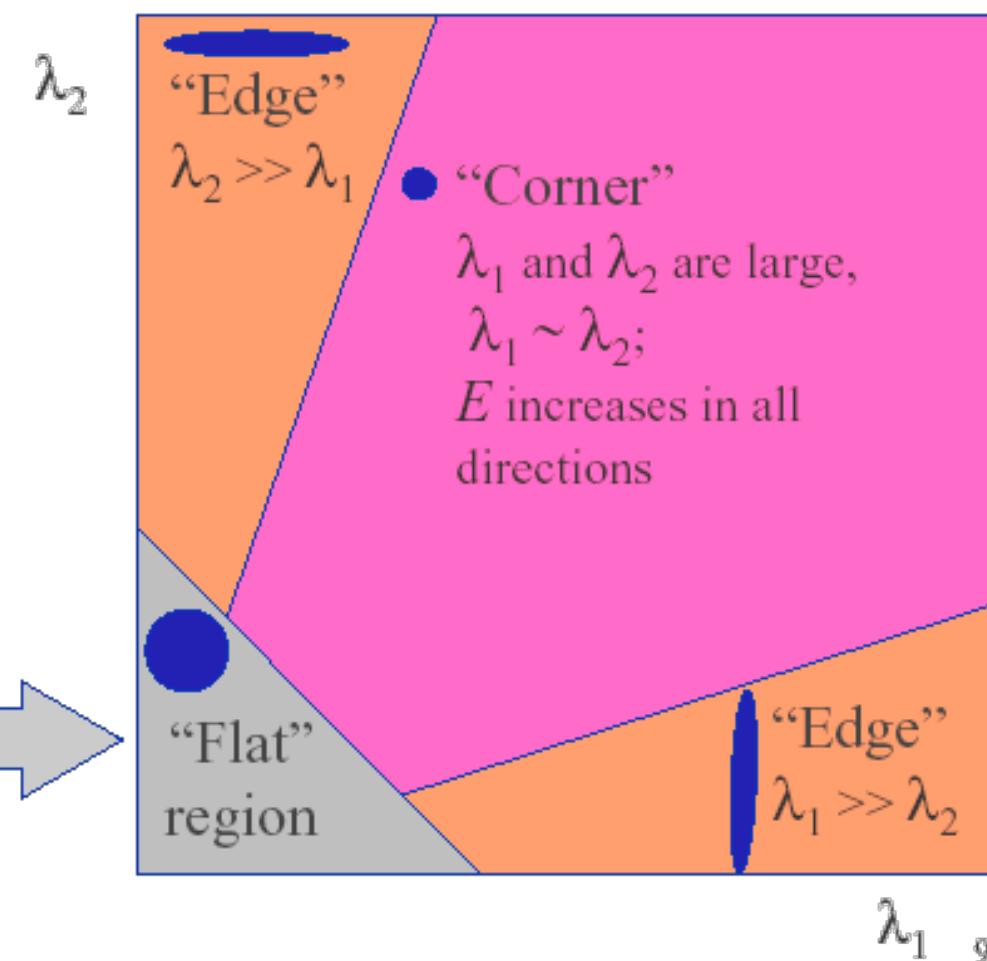


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# Classification via Eigenvalues

Classification of  
image points using  
eigenvalues of  $M$ :

$\lambda_1$  and  $\lambda_2$  are small;  
 $E$  is almost constant  
in all directions



# Corner Response Measure

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Measure of corner response:

$$R = \det M - k (\operatorname{trace} M)^2$$

$$\begin{aligned}\det M &= \lambda_1 \lambda_2 \\ \operatorname{trace} M &= \lambda_1 + \lambda_2\end{aligned}$$

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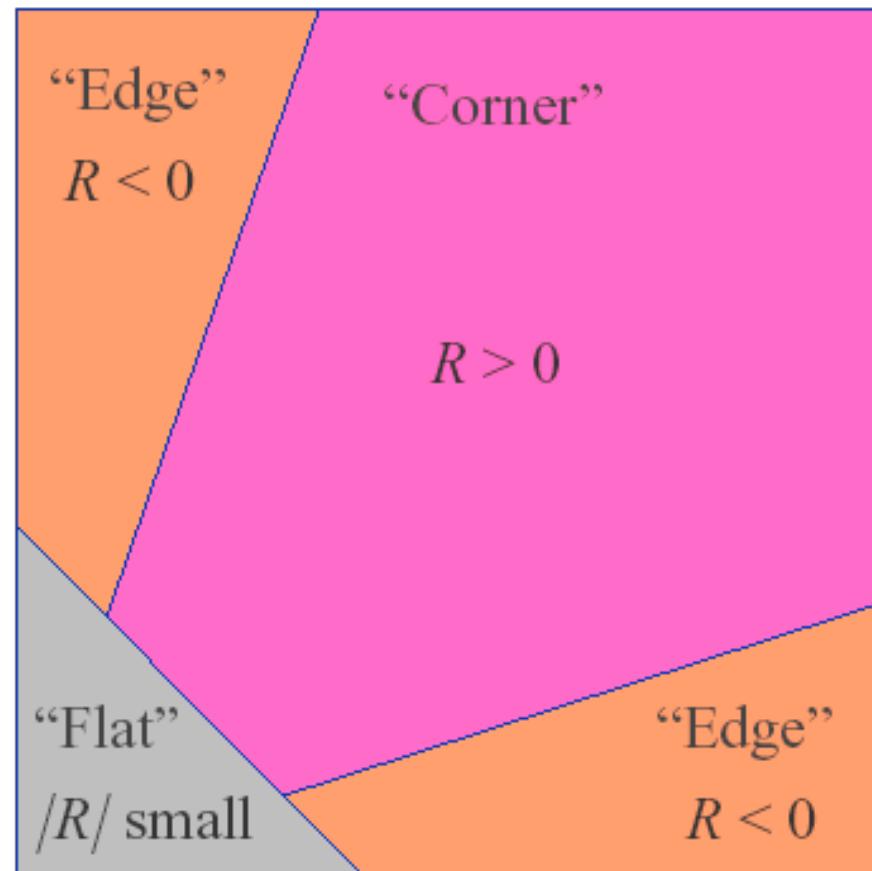
( $k$  is an empirically determined constant;  $k = 0.04 - 0.06$ )

# Corner Response Measure

$$R = \det M - k \operatorname{trace}^2(M)$$

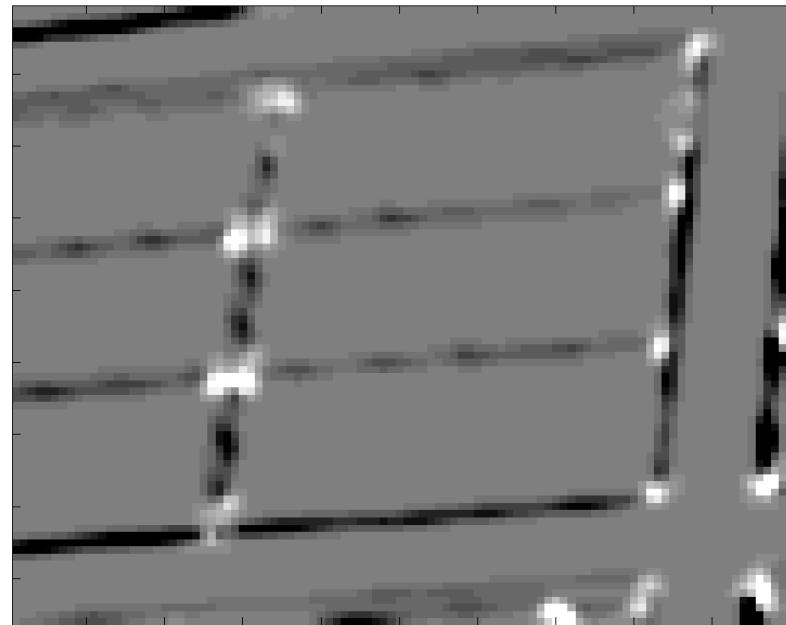
$\lambda_2$

- $R$  depends only on eigenvalues of  $M$
- $R$  is large for a corner
- $R$  is negative with large magnitude for an edge
- $|R|$  is small for a flat region



# Corner Response Example

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R score; Gradient computed with Sobel mask  
Window Gaussian, sigma=1

# Corner Response Example: Edges

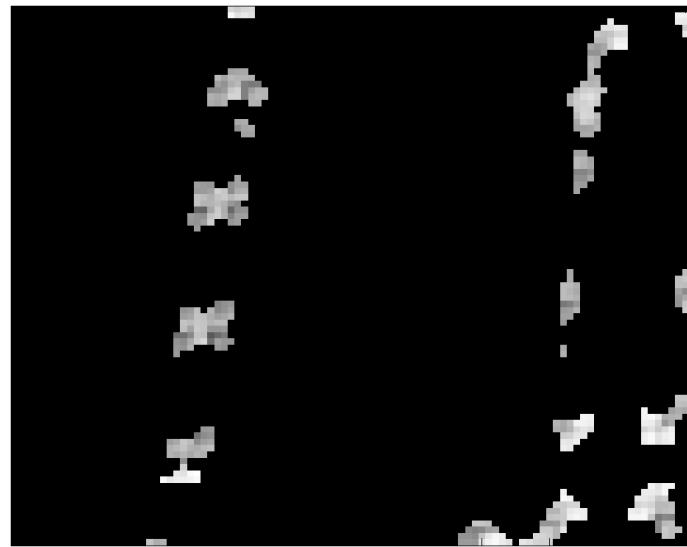
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$R < -10000$

# Corner Response Example: Corners

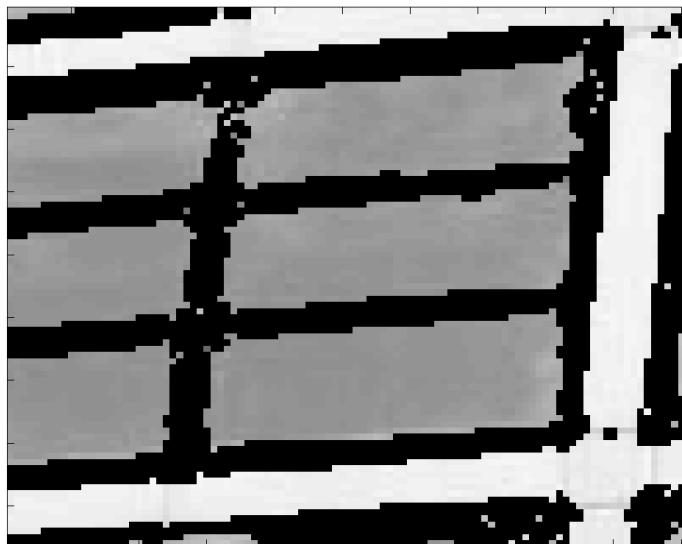
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$R > 10000$

# Corner Response Example:

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$-10000 < R < 10000$   
Neither edges nor corners

# Harris Corner Detection Algorithm

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Compute the Image Gradient

$$I_x = G_{x,s} * I \text{ and } I_y = G_{y,s} * I$$

Compute products of derivatives at each pixel

$$I^2_x = I_x \cdot I_x \text{ and } I^2_y = I_y \cdot I_y \text{ and } I_{xy} = I_x \cdot I_y$$

Compute the sums of the products at each pixel using a window averaging:

$$S^2_x = G_s' * I^2_x \quad S^2_y = G_s' * I^2_y \quad S_{xy} = G_s' * I_{xy}$$

Define the Matrix at each pixel  $M = [S^2_x \ S_{xy}; S_{xy} \ S^2_y]$

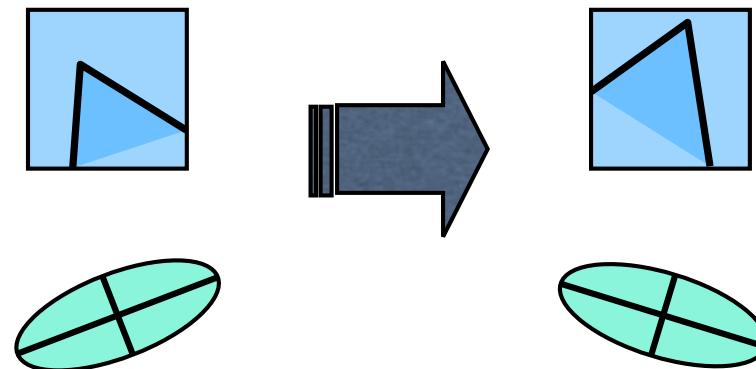
Compute the response  $R = \det M - k \operatorname{trace}(M)^2$

Threshold R

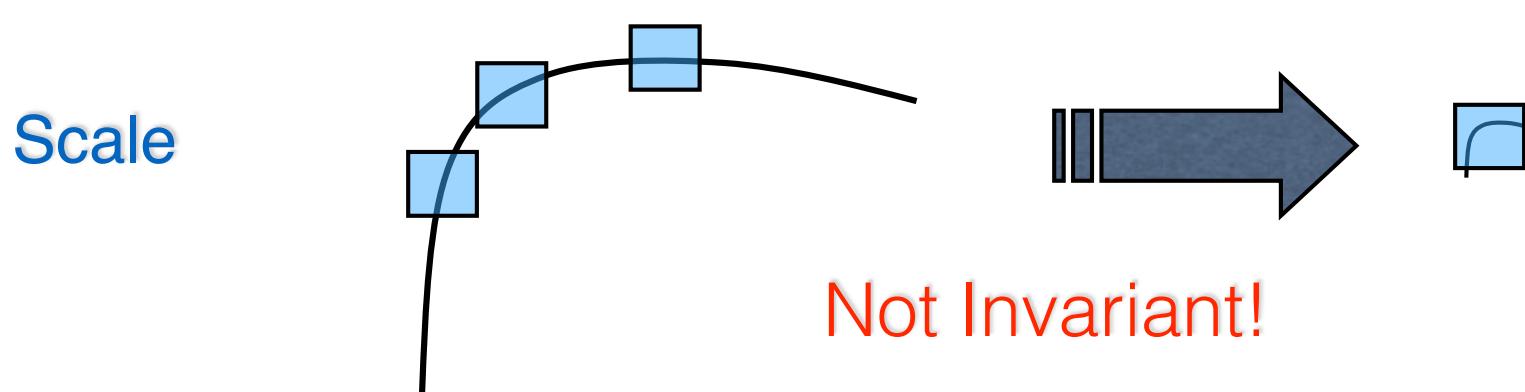
Compute Nonmax suppression

# Invariance Properties

## Rotation



Eigenvalues do not change -> Invariant

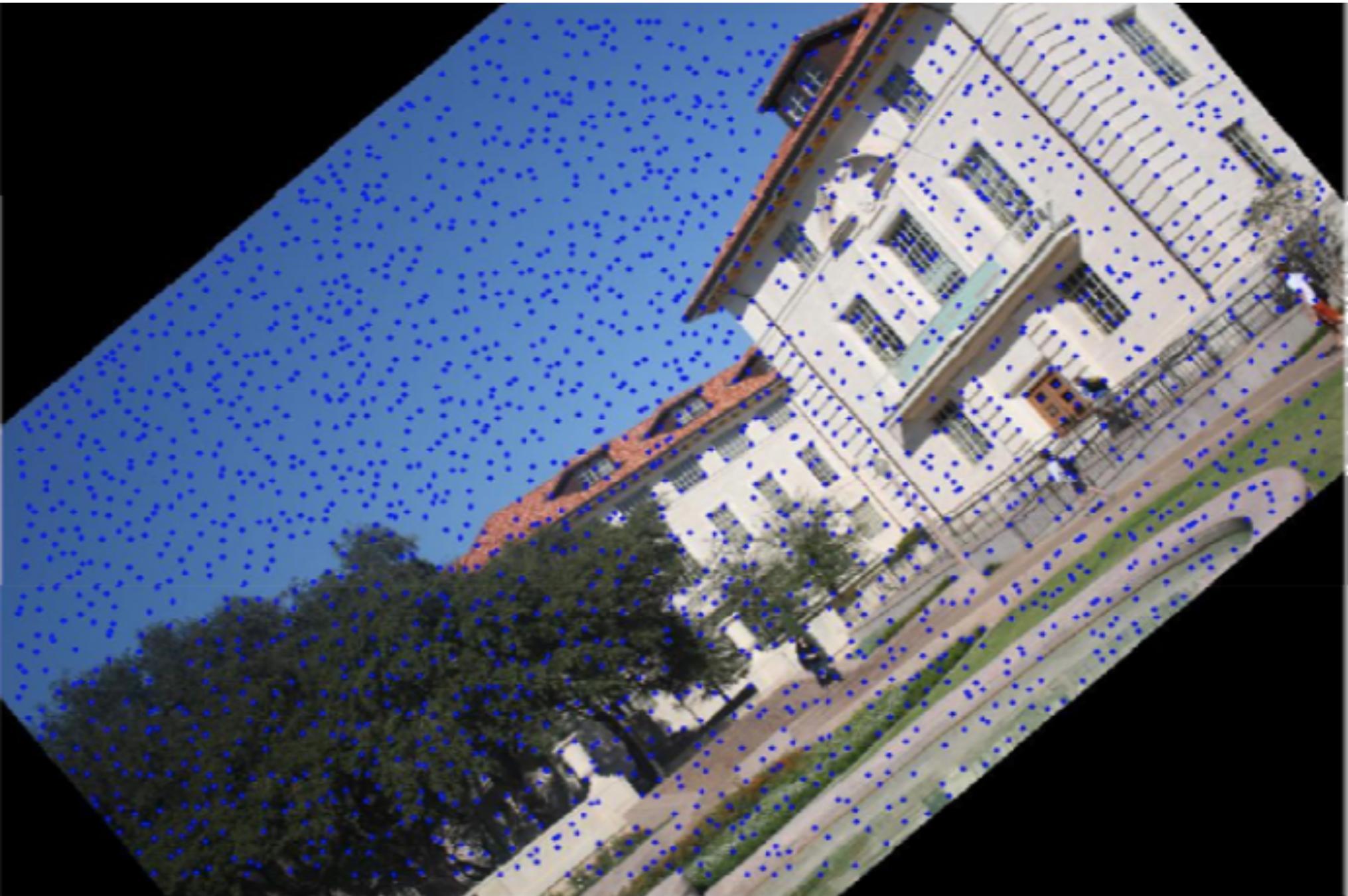


Not Invariant!

# Example



# Example

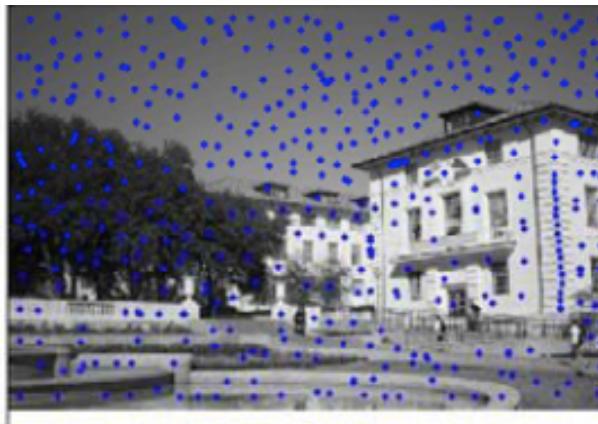


# Example

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Window scale = 10



Window scale = 15



Window scale = 30

Harris corner detector finds local maxima at different set of points, depending on the scale of the window we sum over.

# Scale Invariant Interest Points

image 1



If I detect an interest point here

image 2



Then I also want to detect one here

# Scale Invariant Interest Points

How can we independently select interest points in each image, such that the detections are repeatable across different scales?

image 1



image 2



# Scale Invariant Interest Points

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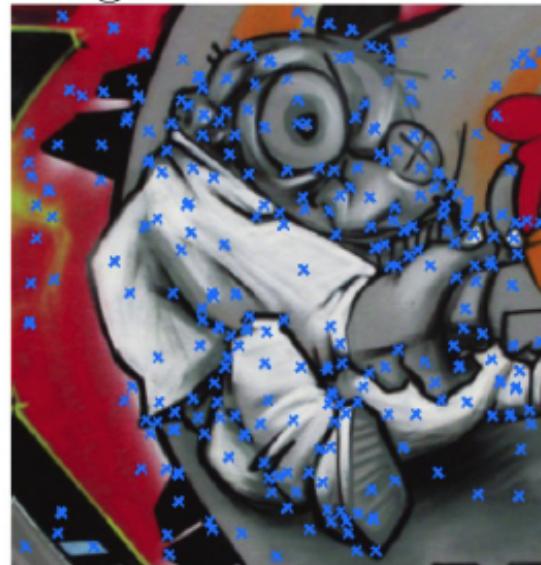
image 1



# Scale Invariant Interest Points

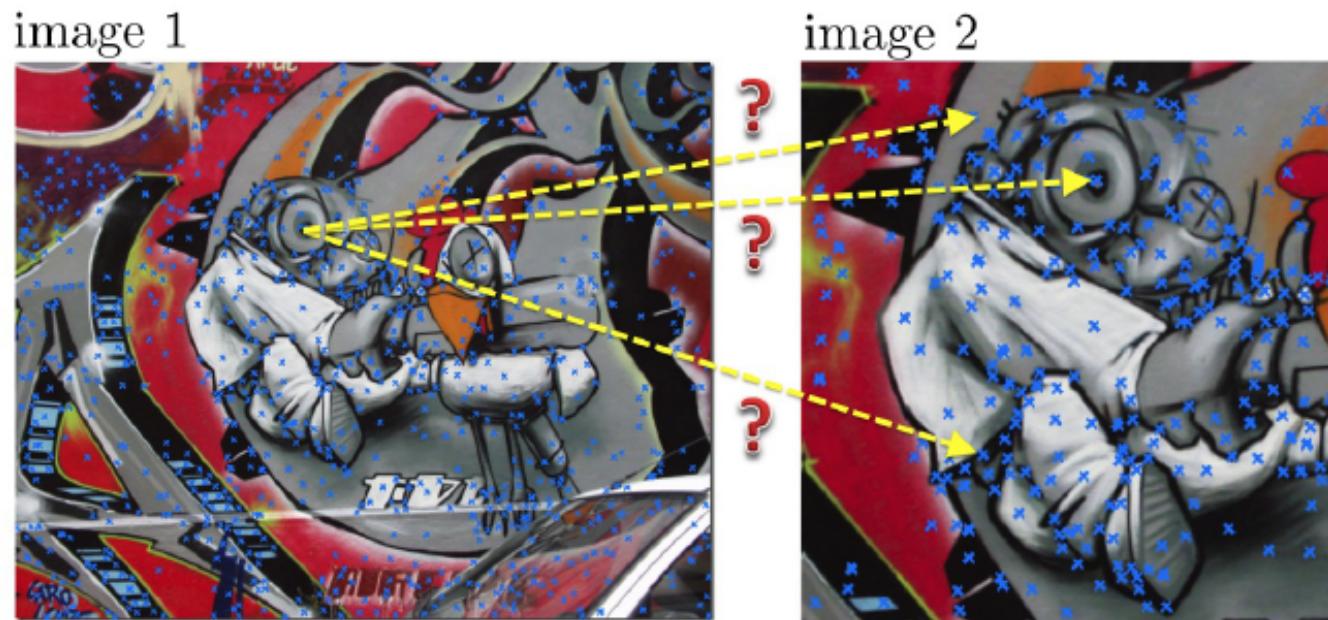
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image 2



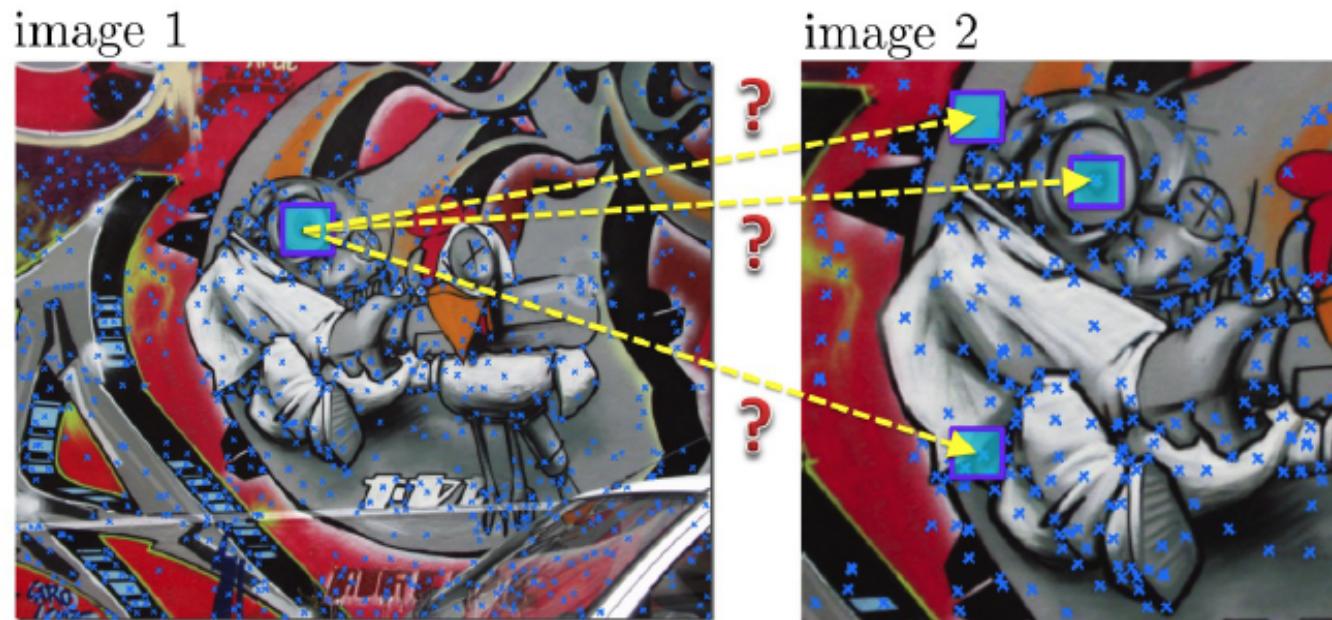
# Scale Invariant Interest Points

Our goal is to match objects in different images



# Scale Invariant Interest Points

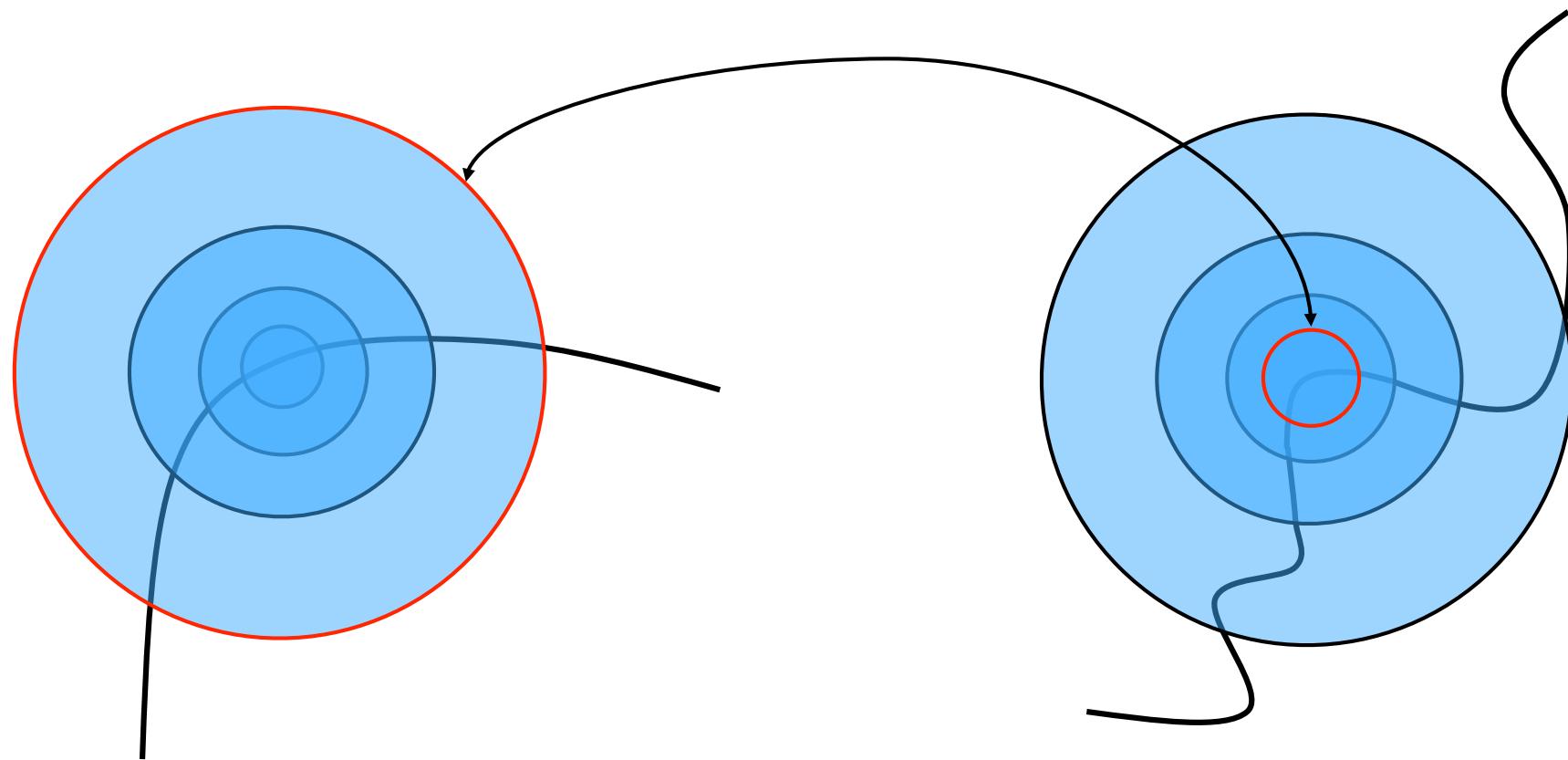
Our goal is to match objects in different images



- Find interest points in each image
- Form a vector description of each point
- Compare the vectors

# Scale Invariant Detection

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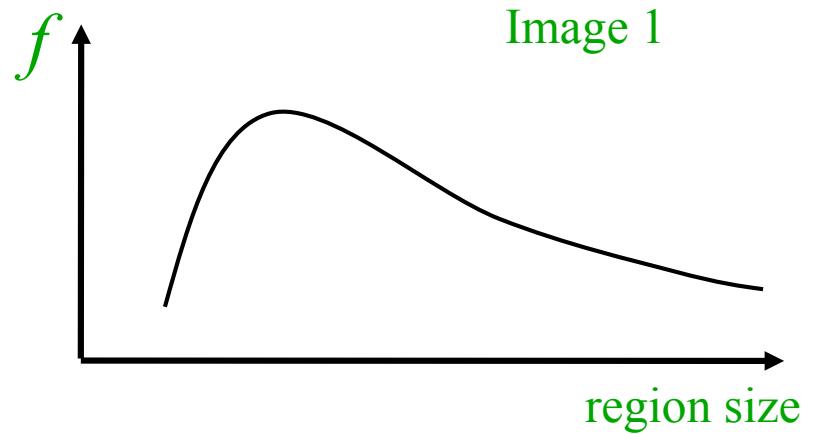
Intuition: Find scale that gives local maxima of some function  $f$  in both, position and scale.

# Scale Invariant Detection

Design a function on the region (circle), which is “scale invariant”  
(the same for corresponding regions, even if they are at different scales)

- For a point in one image, we can consider it as a function of region size (circle radius)
- Find the local maxima (scale invariant)

Example: average intensity. For corresponding regions (even of different sizes) it will be the same.

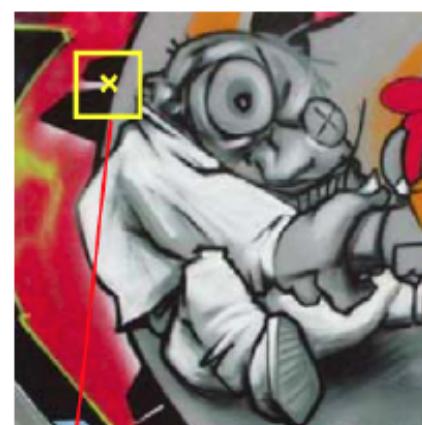
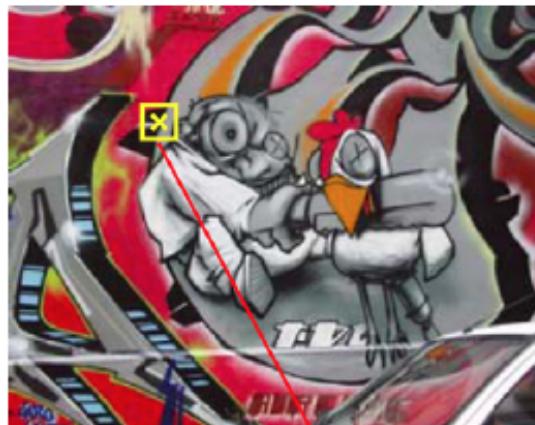


scale = 1/2  
→



# Scale at Local Maxima

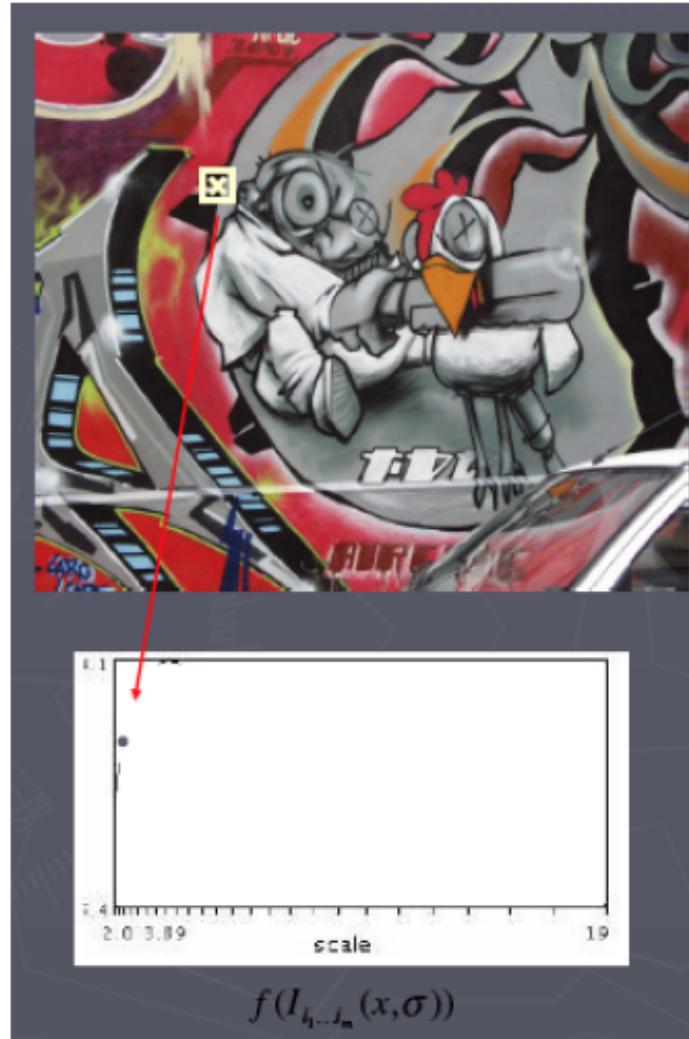
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$$f(I_{i_1 \dots i_m}(x, \sigma)) = f(I_{i_1 \dots i_m}(x', \sigma'))$$

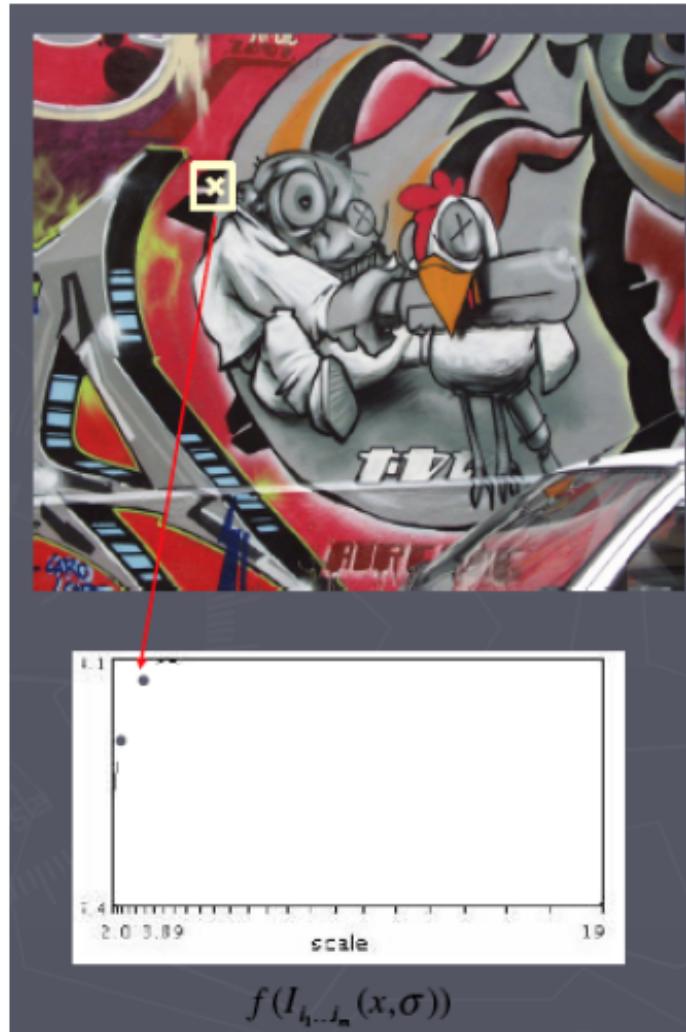
# Automatic Scale Selection

Scale signature: Function response for increasing scale



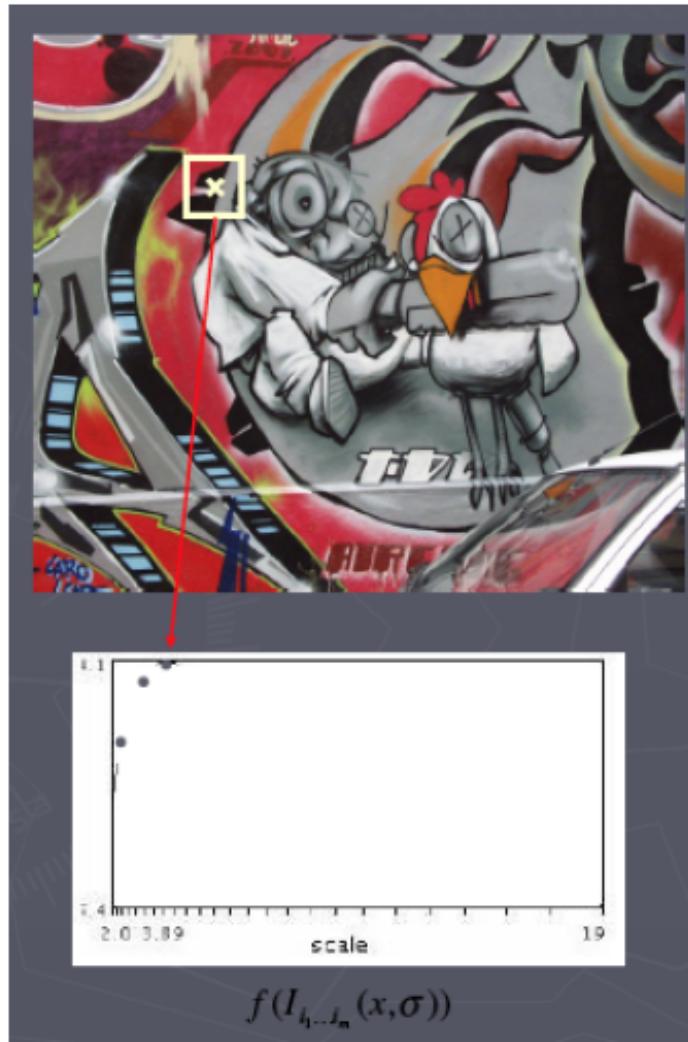
# Automatic Scale Selection

Scale signature: Function response for increasing scale



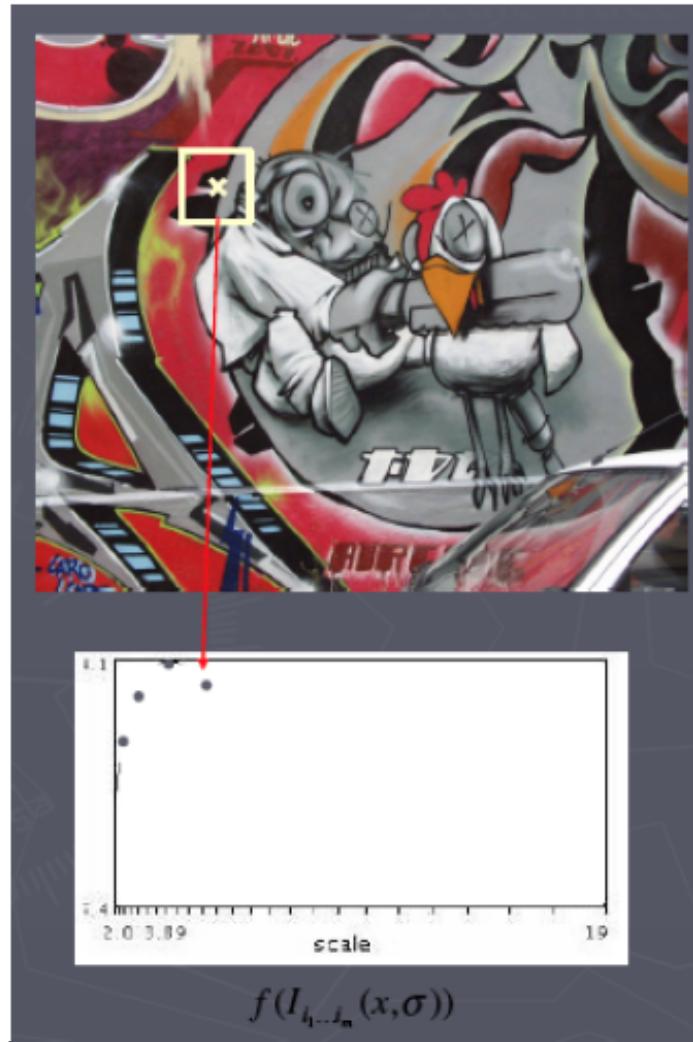
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Scale signature: Function response for increasing scale



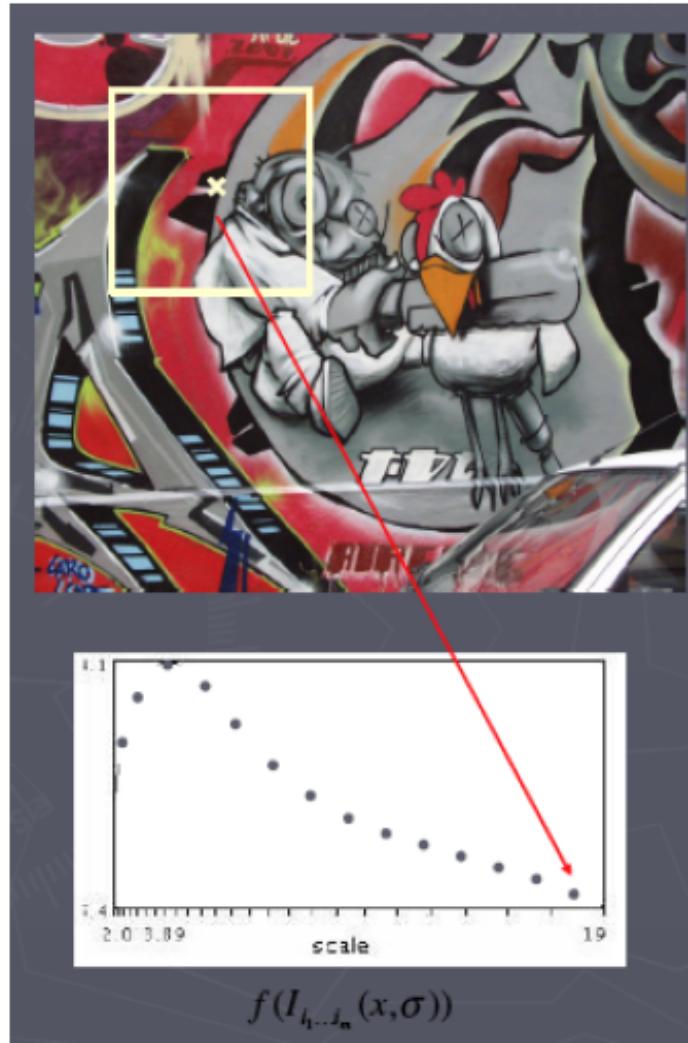
# Automatic Scale Selection

Scale signature: Function response for increasing scale



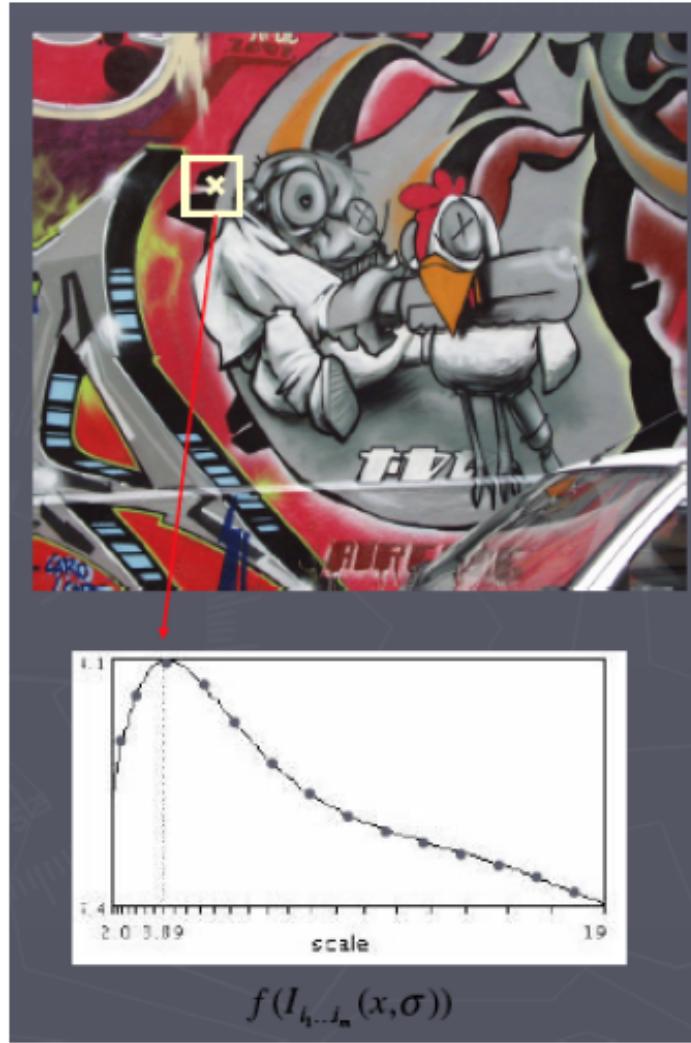
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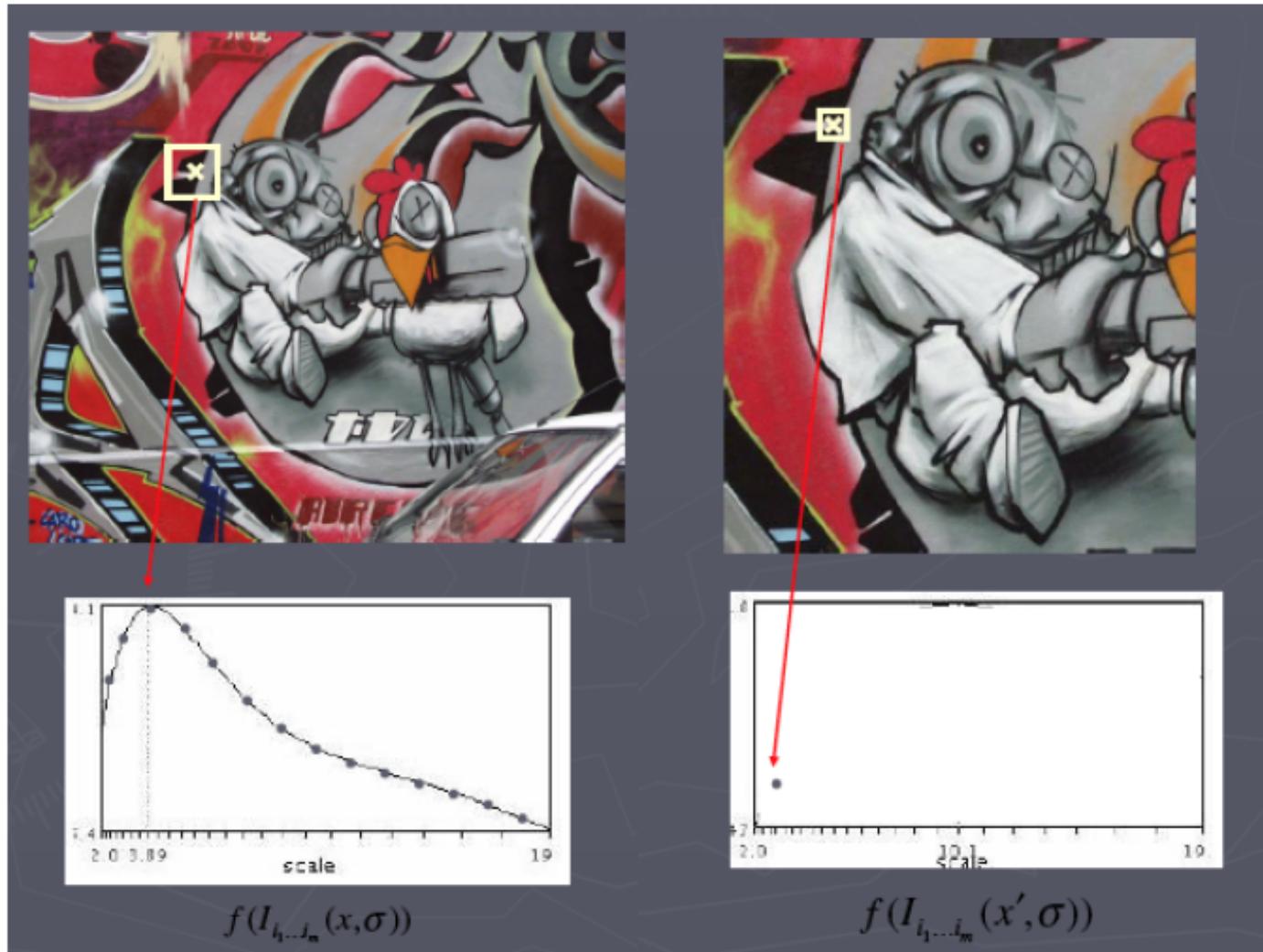
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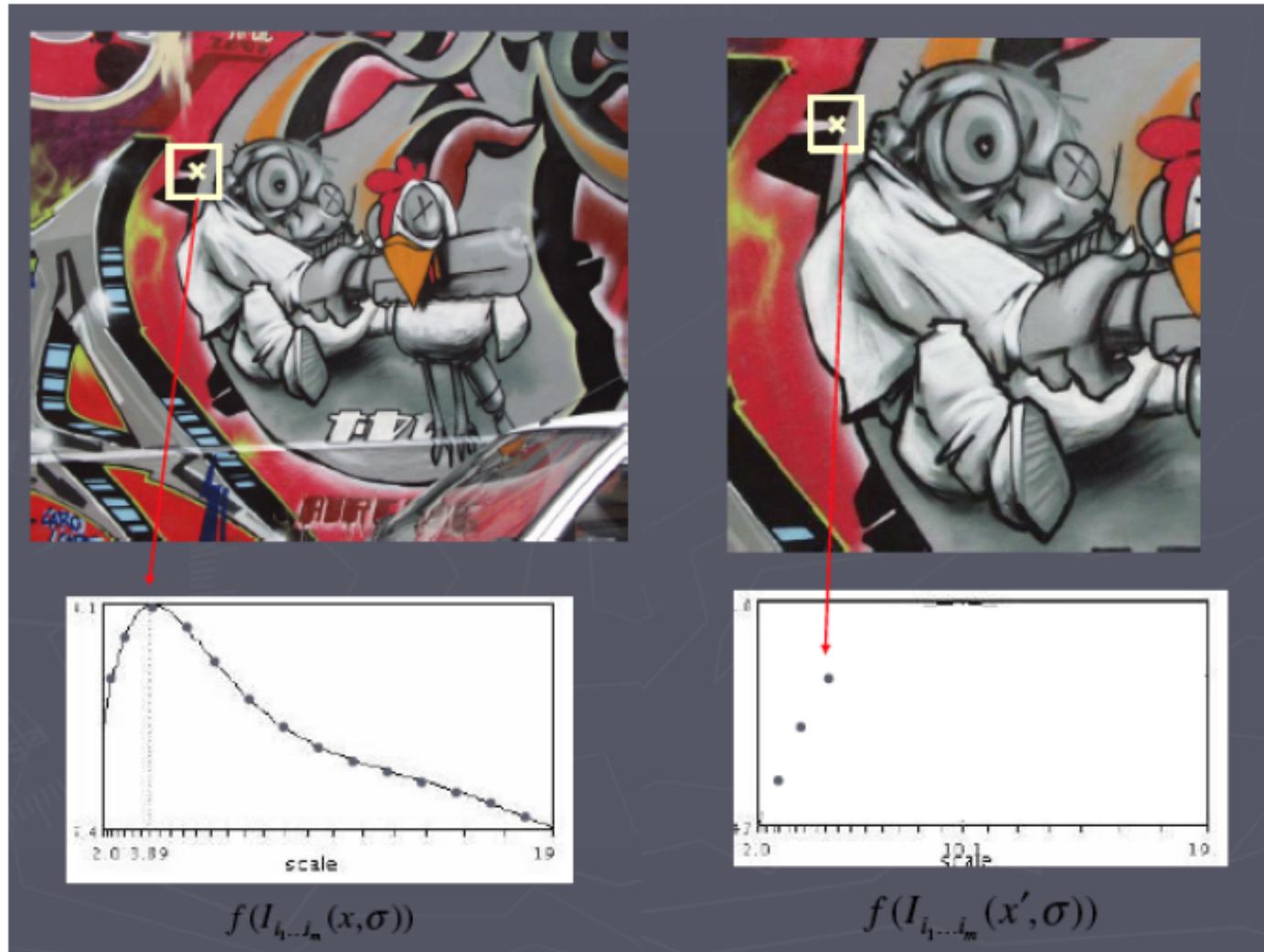
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Scale signature: Function response for increasing scale



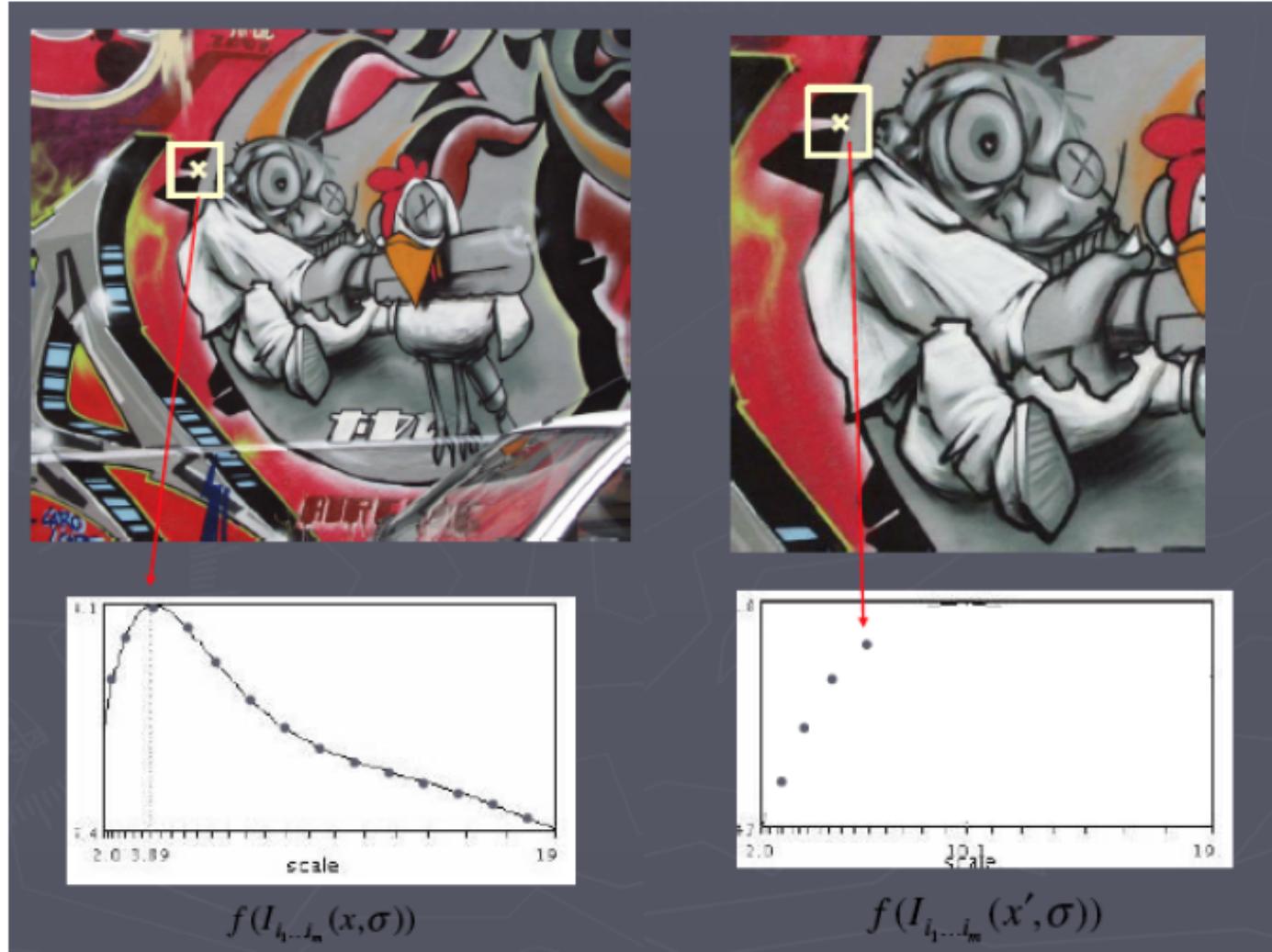
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Scale signature: Function response for increasing scale



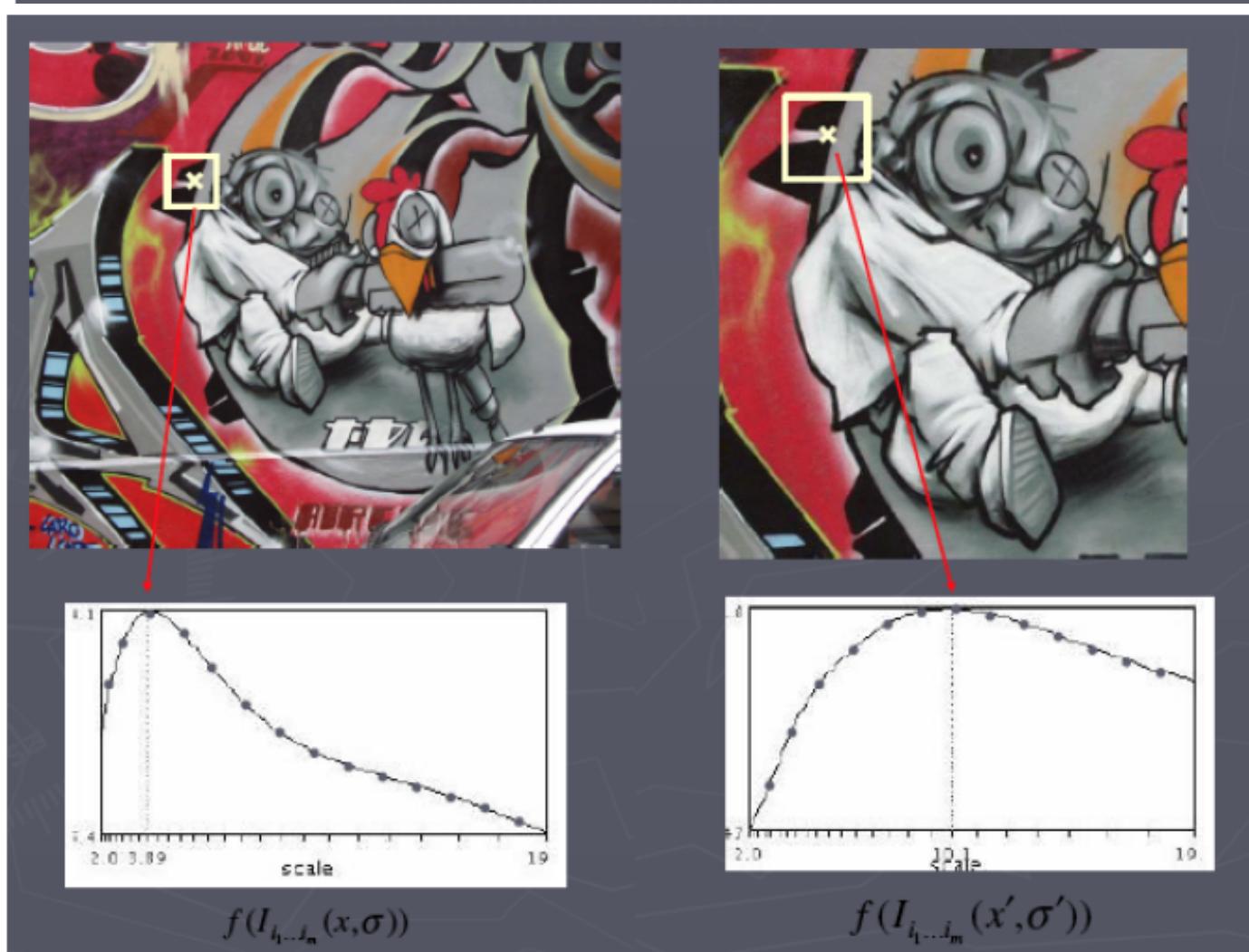
# Automatic Scale Selection

Scale signature: Function response for increasing scale



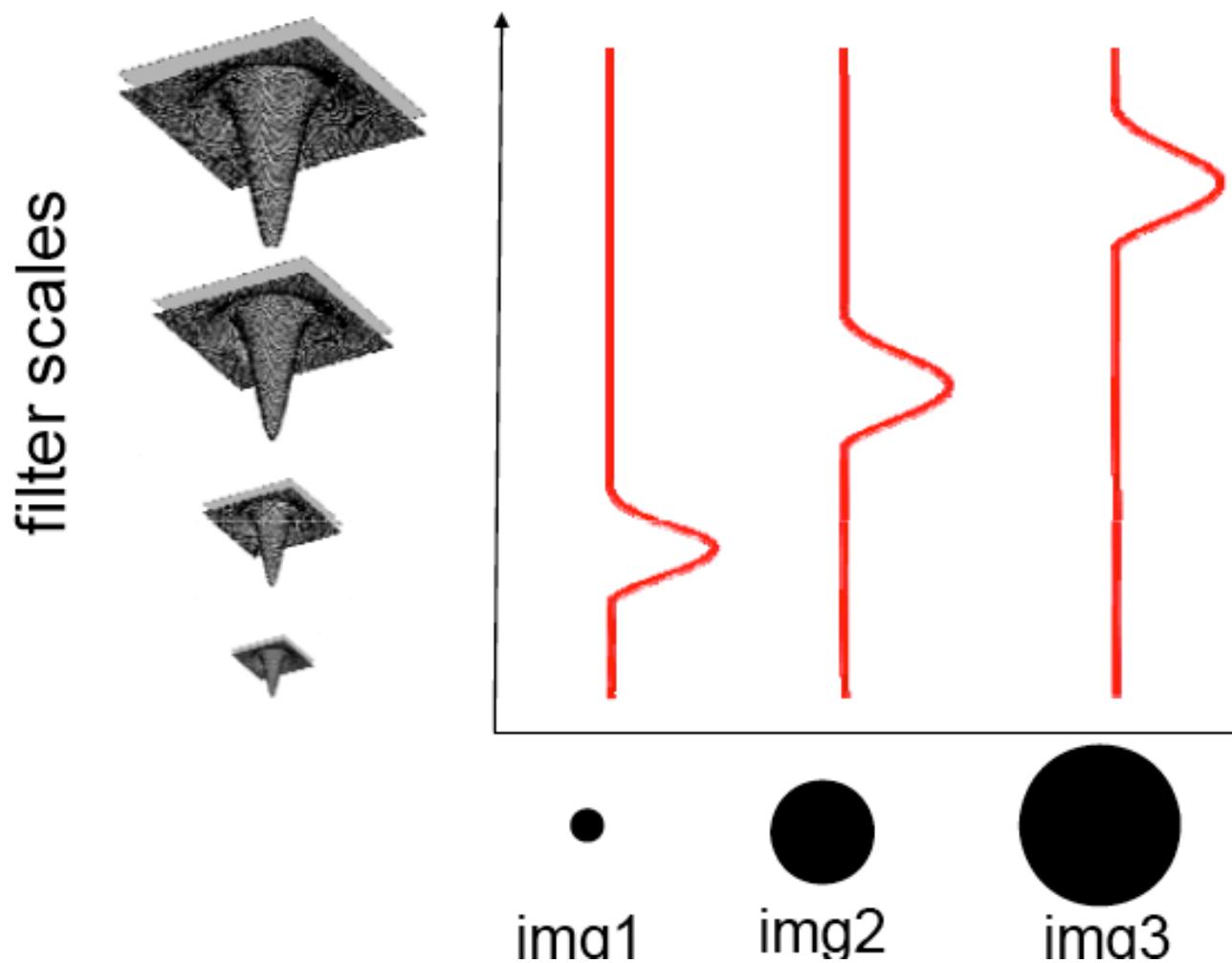
# Automatic Scale Selection

Scale signature: Function response for increasing scale



# What can be a “signature” function f?

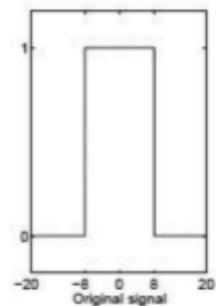
Laplacian-of-Gaussian = “blob” detector  $\nabla^2 g = \frac{\partial^2 g}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 g}{\partial y^2}$



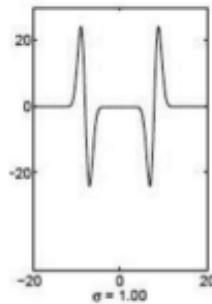
# How is it a “blob” detector

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Original signal

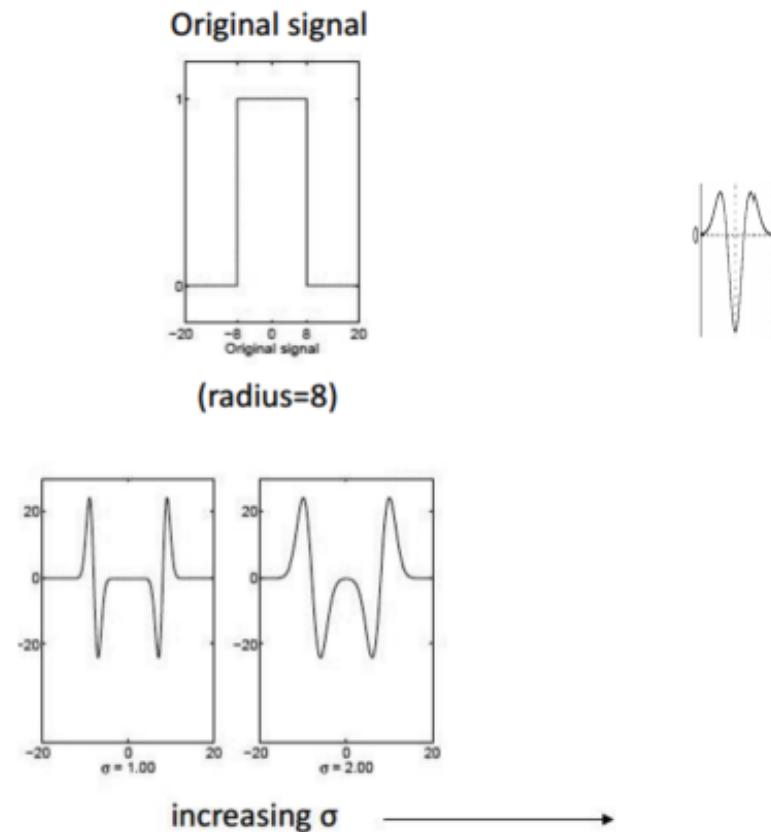


(radius=8)



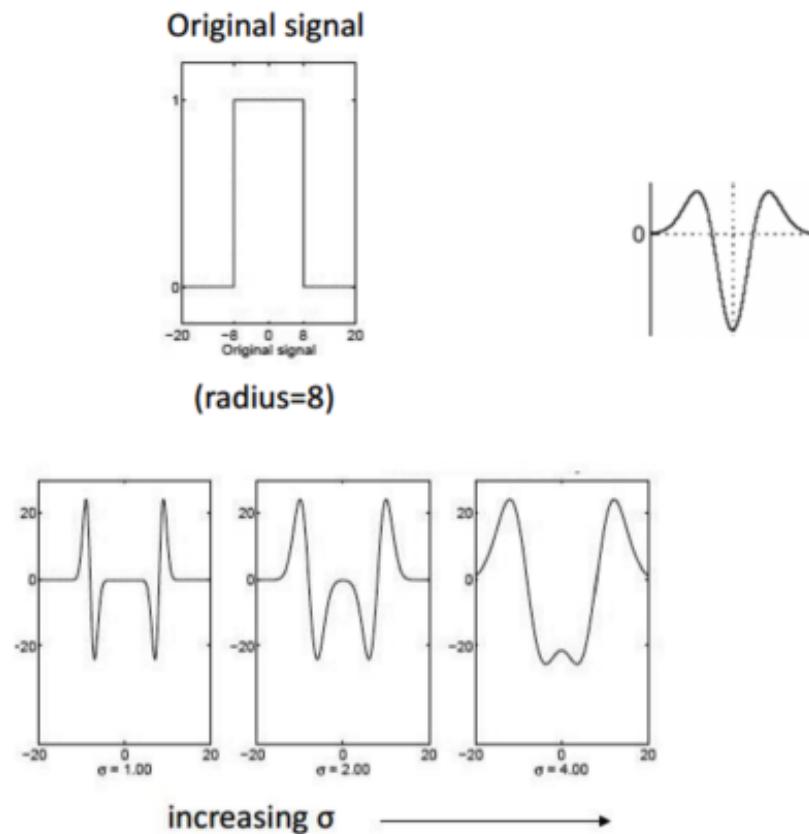
# How is it a “blob” detector

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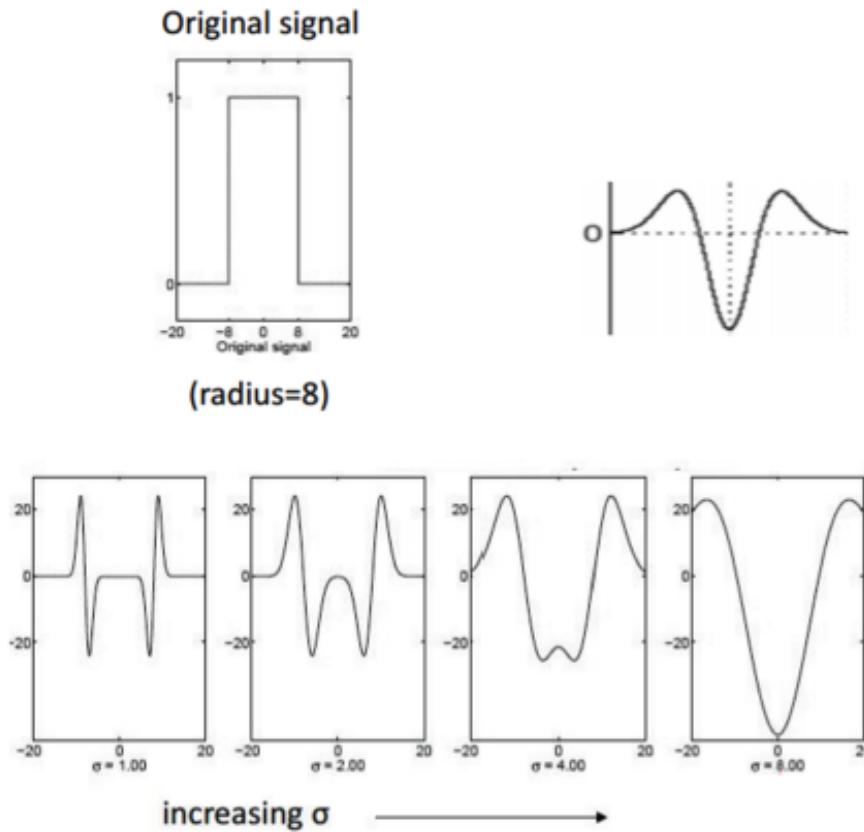
# How is it a “blob” detector

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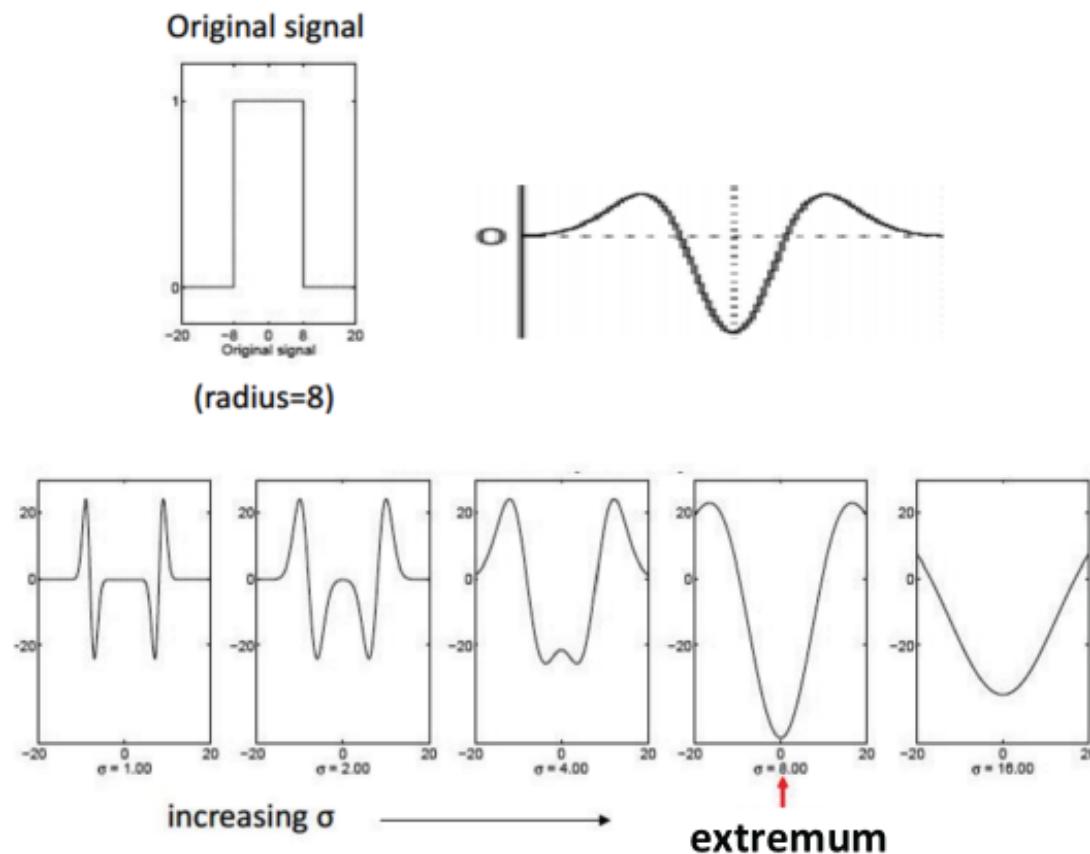


# How is it a “blob” detector

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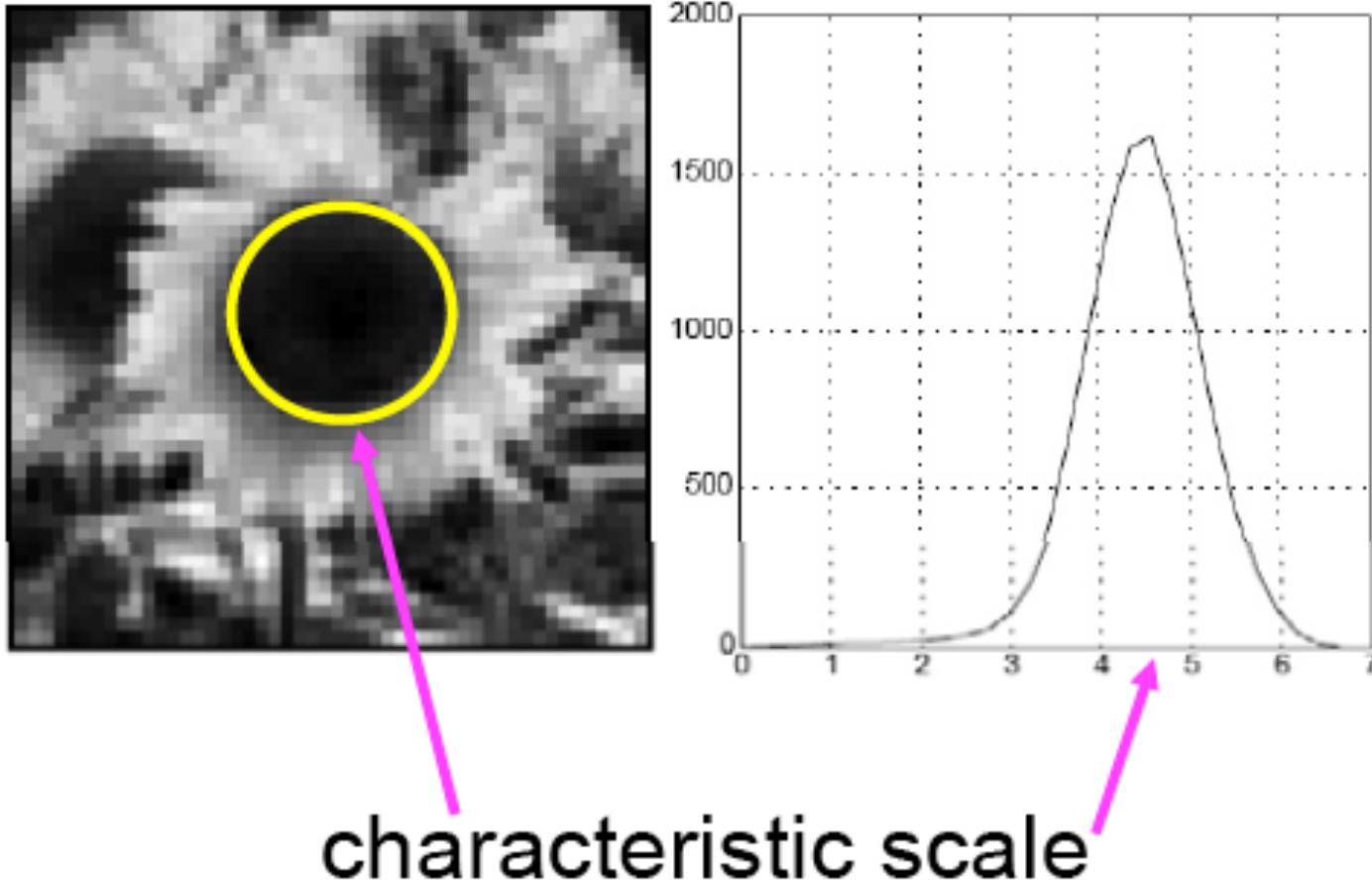


# How is it a “blob” detector



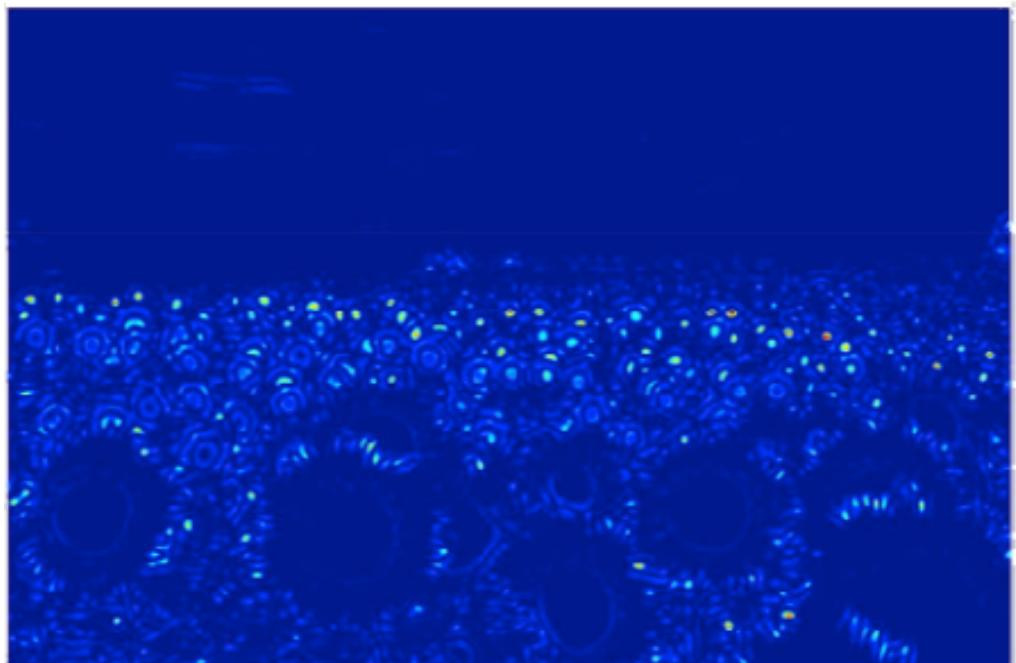
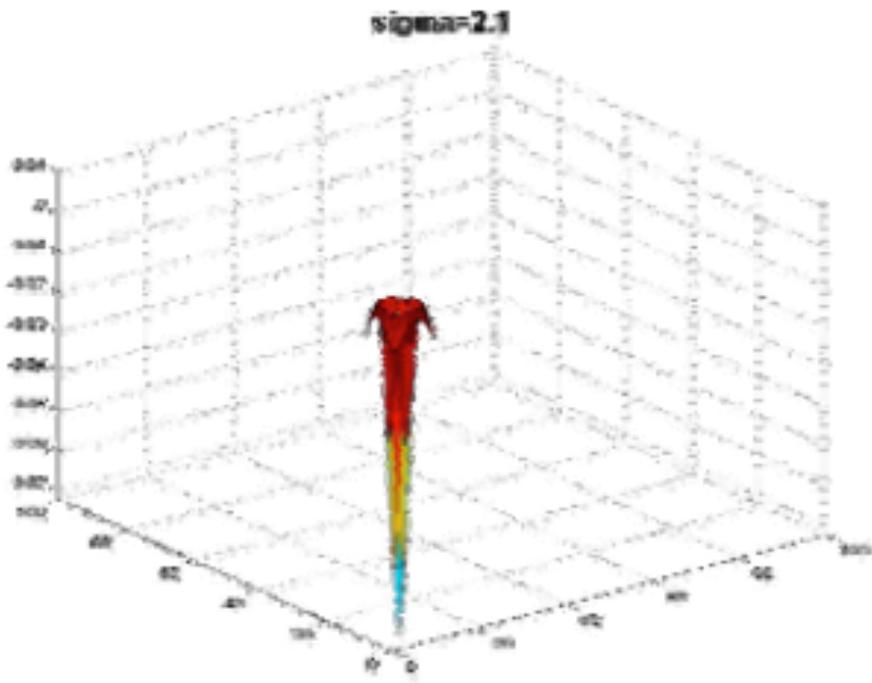
# “Characteristic Scale”

Scale that produces a peak of Laplacian Response.



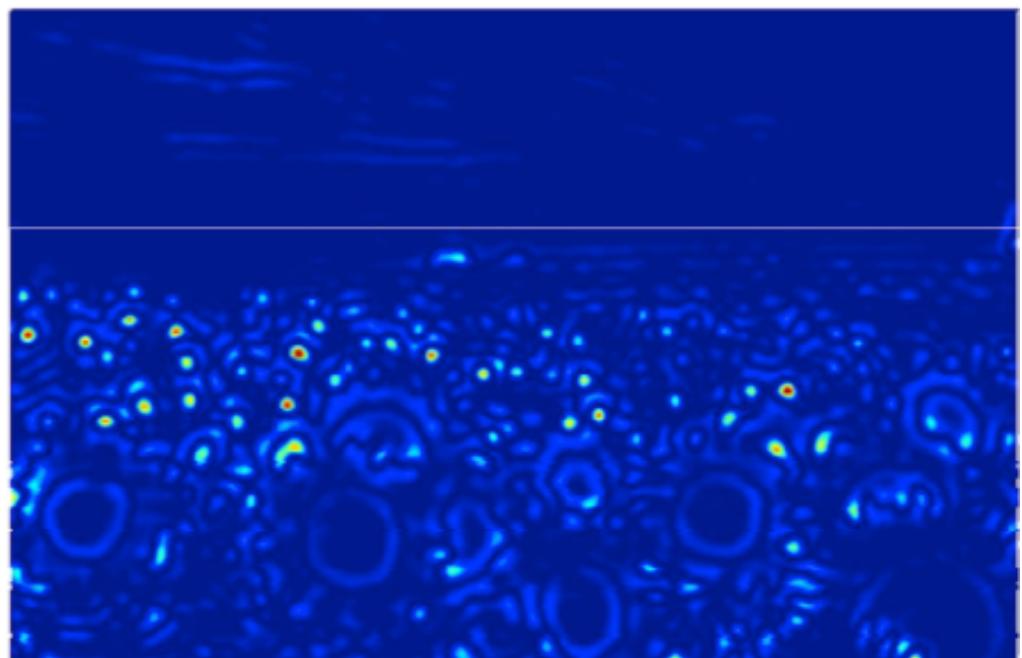
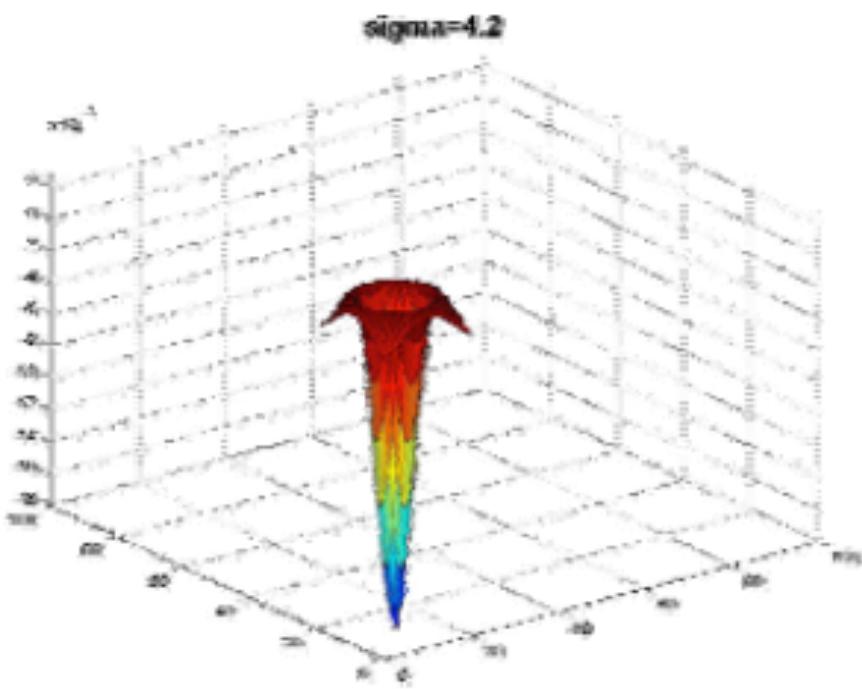
# LoG

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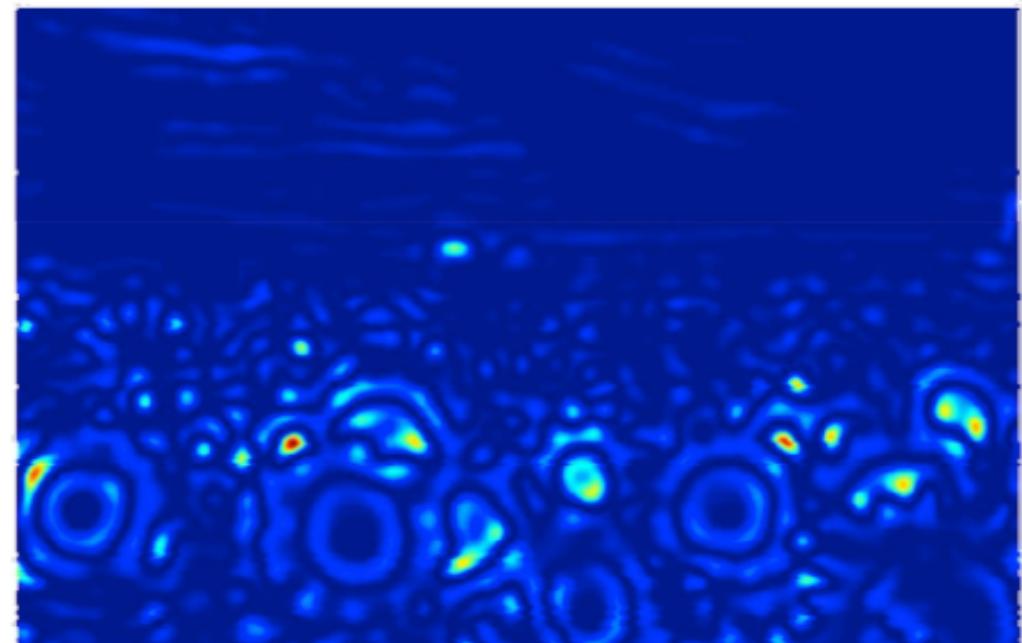
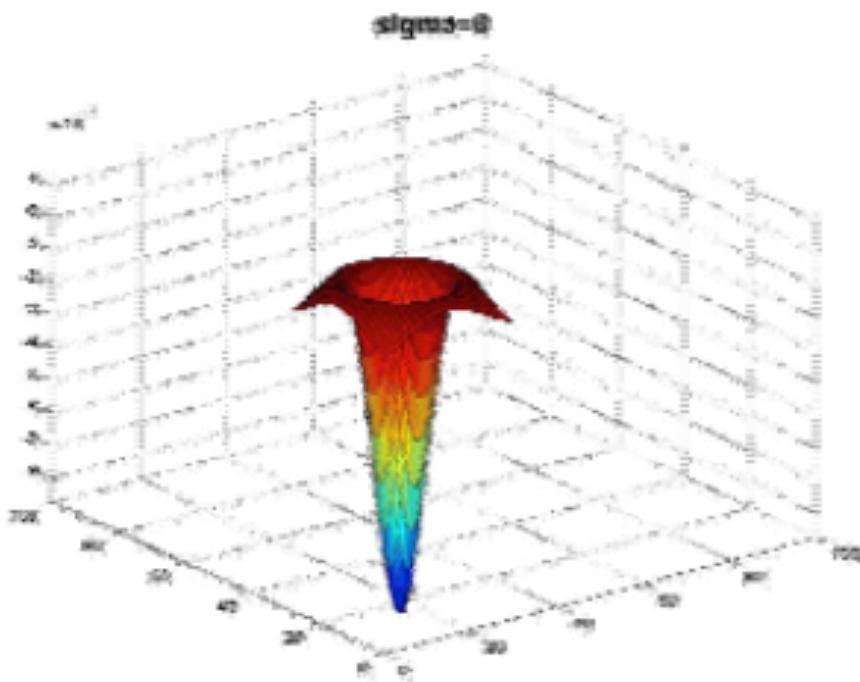
# LoG

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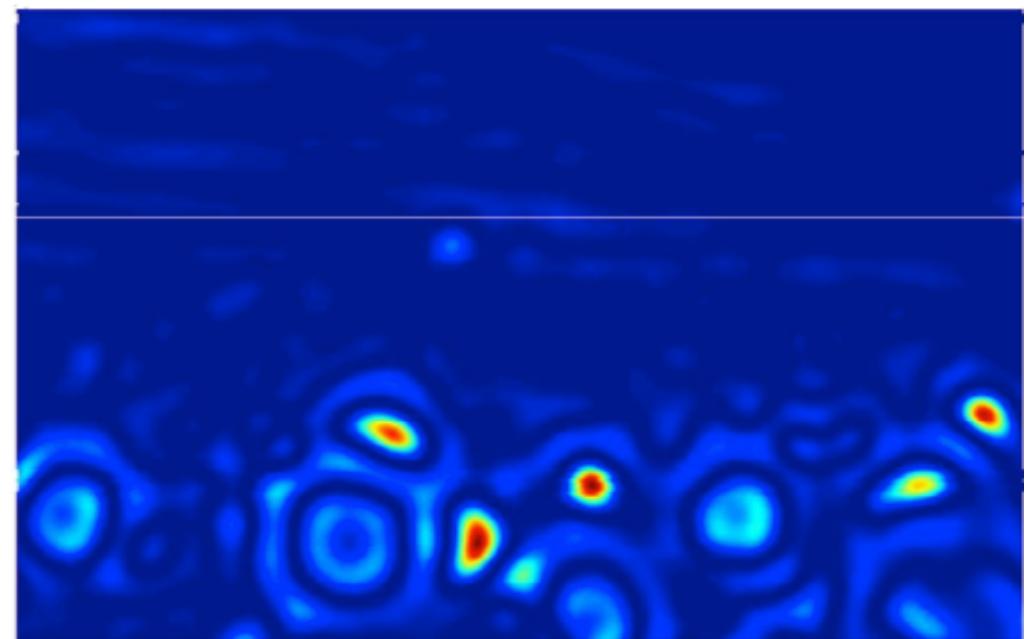
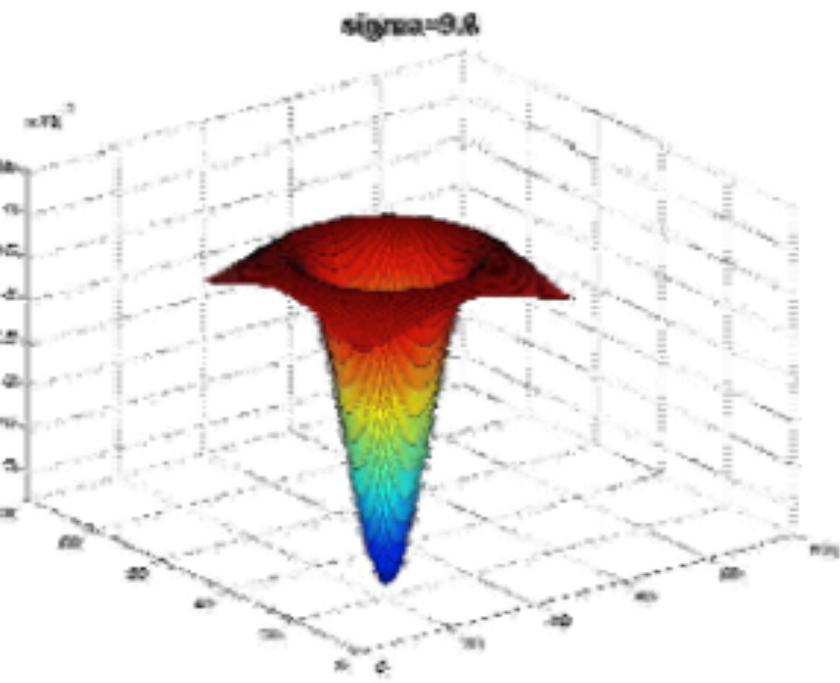
# LoG

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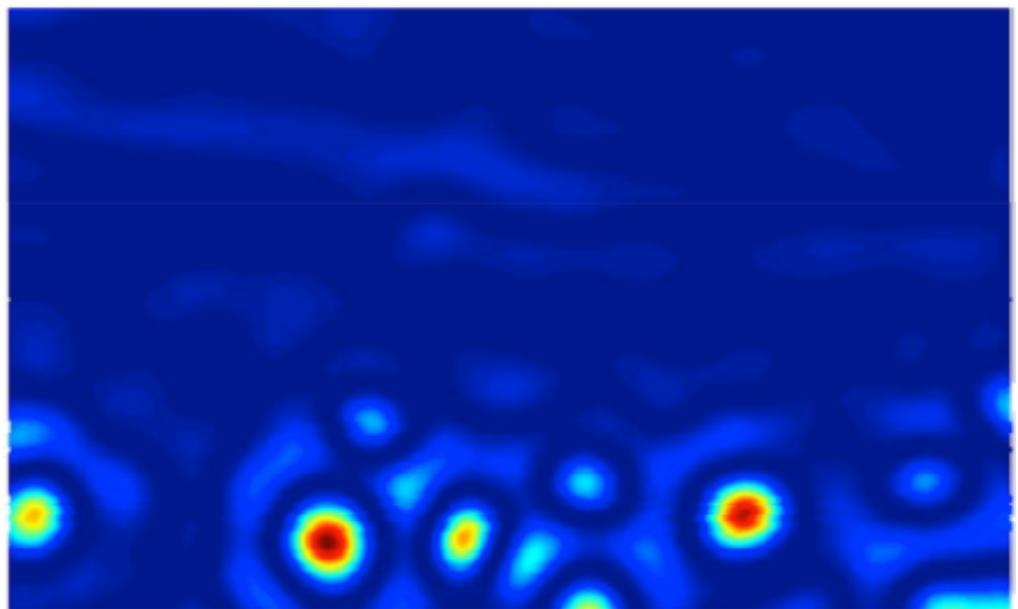
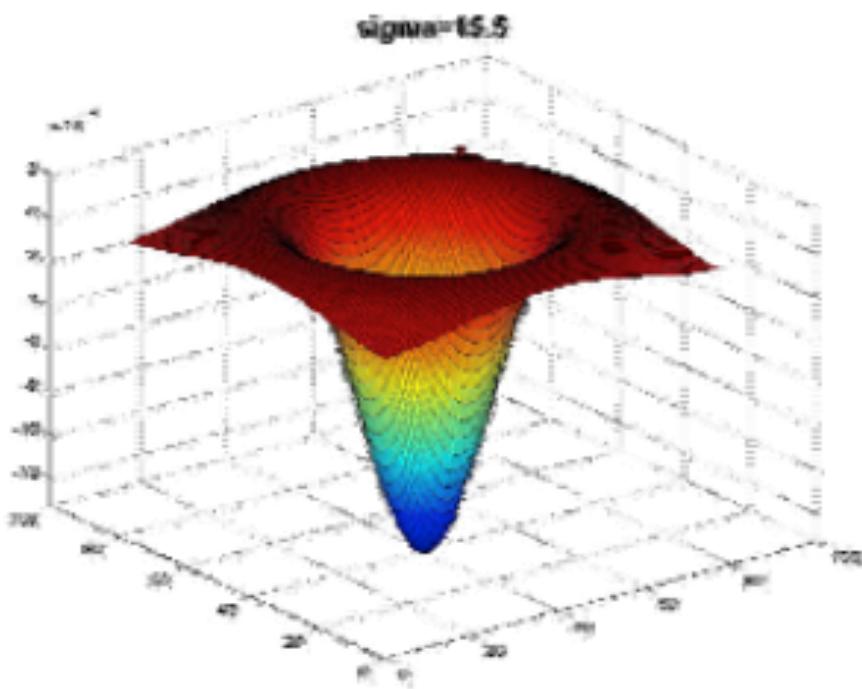
# LoG

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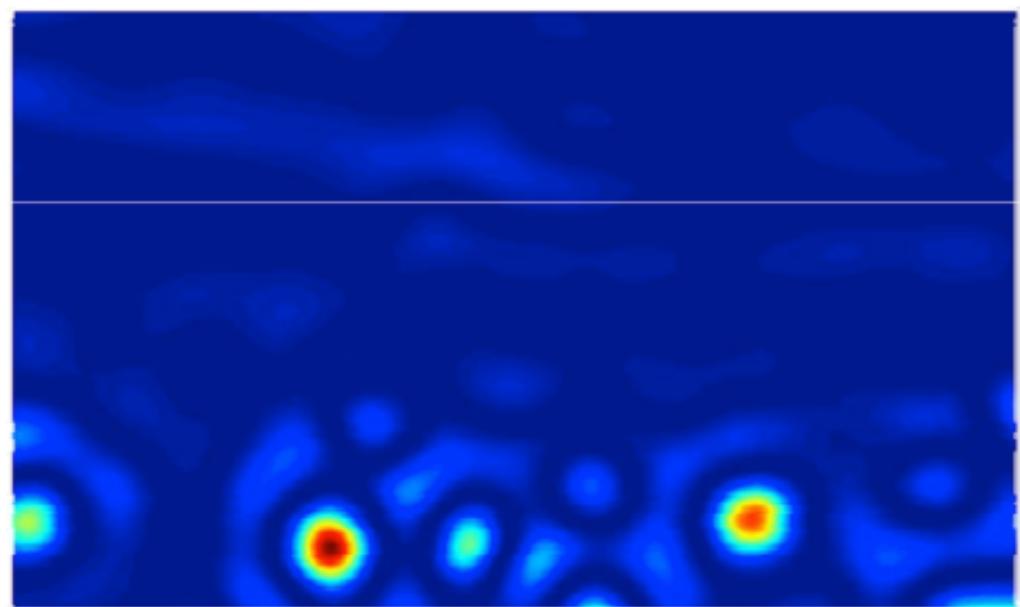
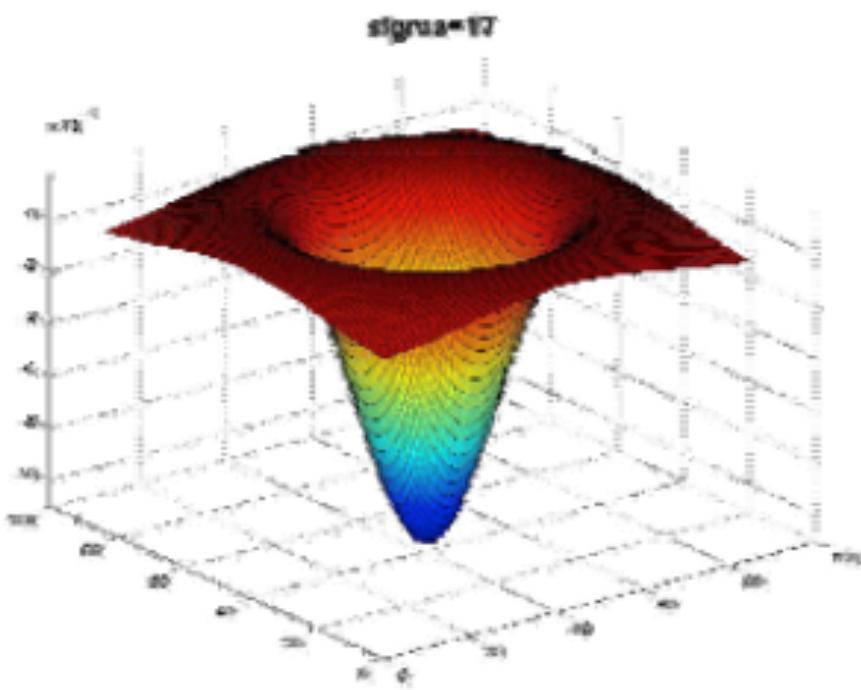
# LoG

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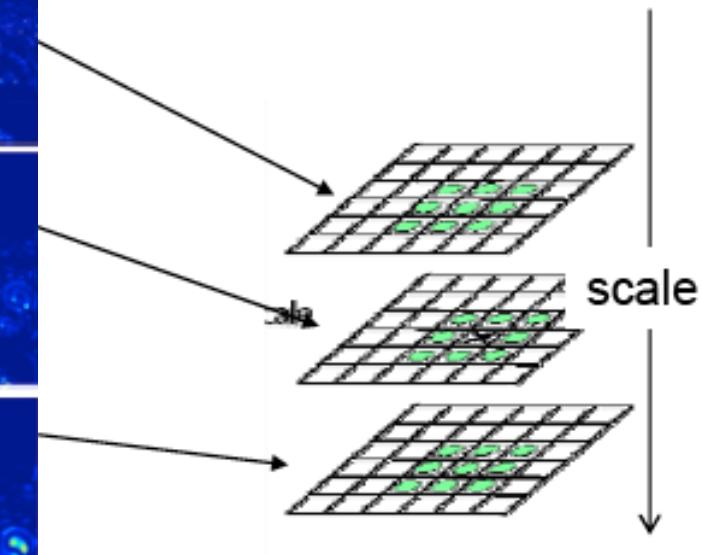
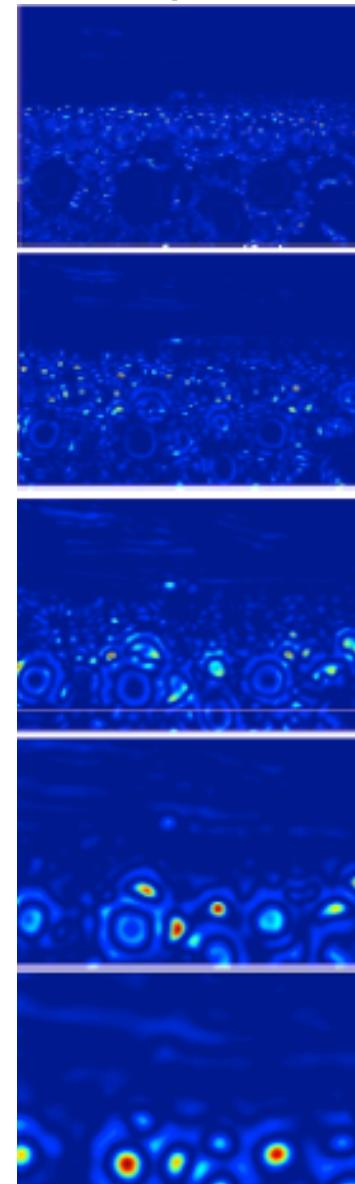
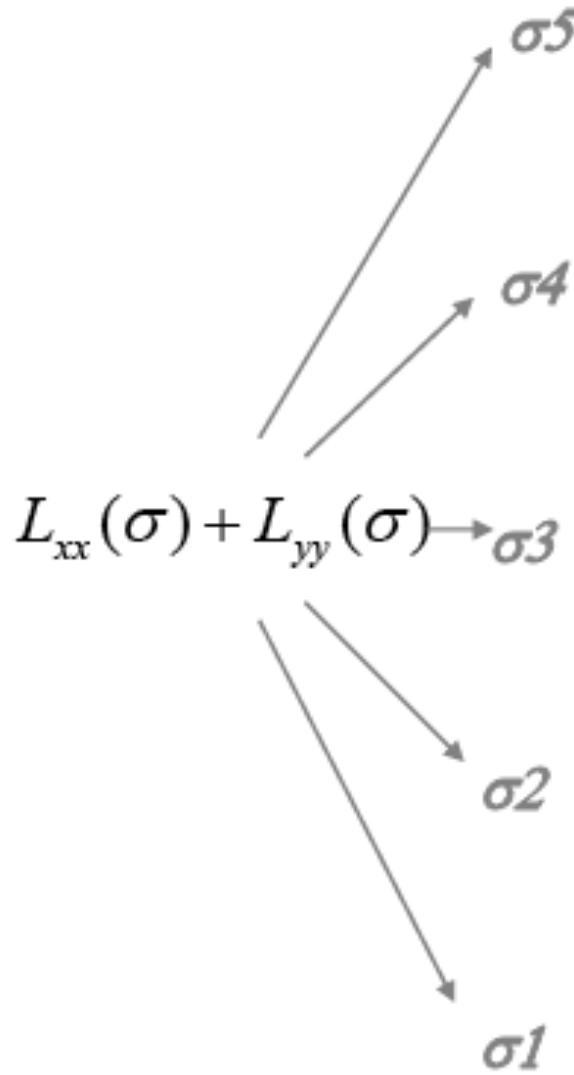
# LoG

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# Scale-Space Blob Detection

Interest points are local maxima in both position and scale.



List of x,y, sigma

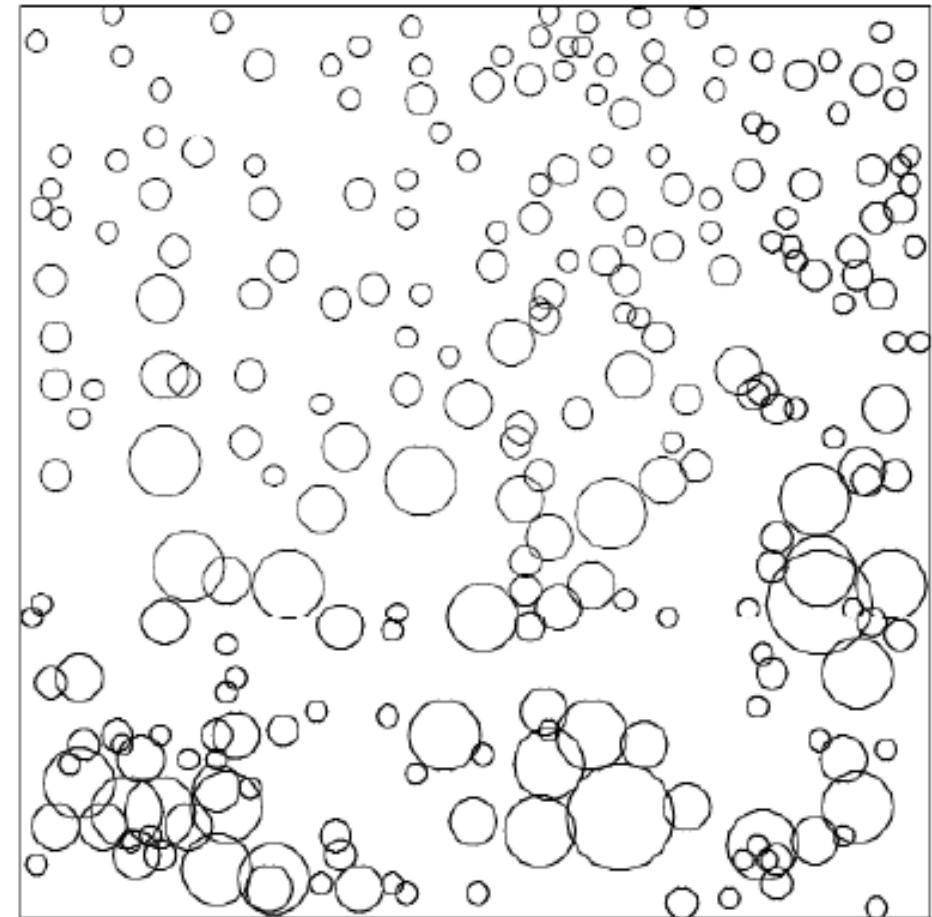
# Example

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*original image*



*scale-space maxima of  $(\nabla_{norm}^2 L)^2$*



T. Lindeberg. Feature detection with automatic scale selection. IJCV 1998.

# Computation Time

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Computing LoG requires convolutions at different scales

Large  $\sigma$  requires large filters (more time to compute)

# Scale Invariant Detection

Functions for determining scale

$$f = \text{Kernel} * \text{Image}$$

Kernels:

$$L = \sigma^2 (G_{xx}(x, y, \sigma) + G_{yy}(x, y, \sigma))$$

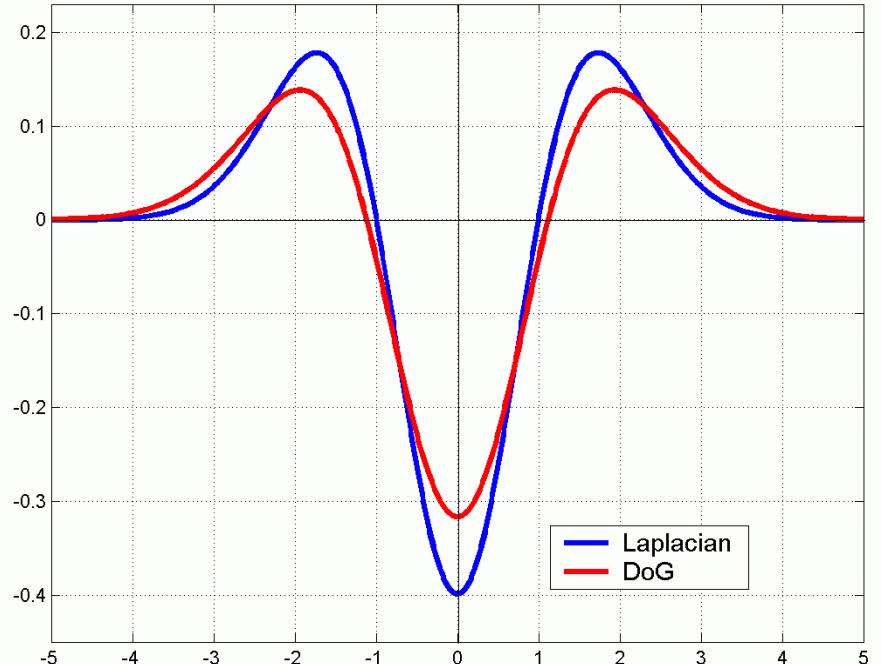
(Laplacian)

$$DoG = G(x, y, k\sigma) - G(x, y, \sigma)$$

(Difference of Gaussians)  
(more efficient to implement)

where Gaussian

$$G(x, y, \sigma) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} e^{-\frac{x^2+y^2}{2\sigma^2}}$$



Note: both kernels are invariant to *scale* and *rotation*

# DoG Approximation of the LoG

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$$I(k\sigma) - I(\sigma) = I(k\sigma) - I(\sigma)$$

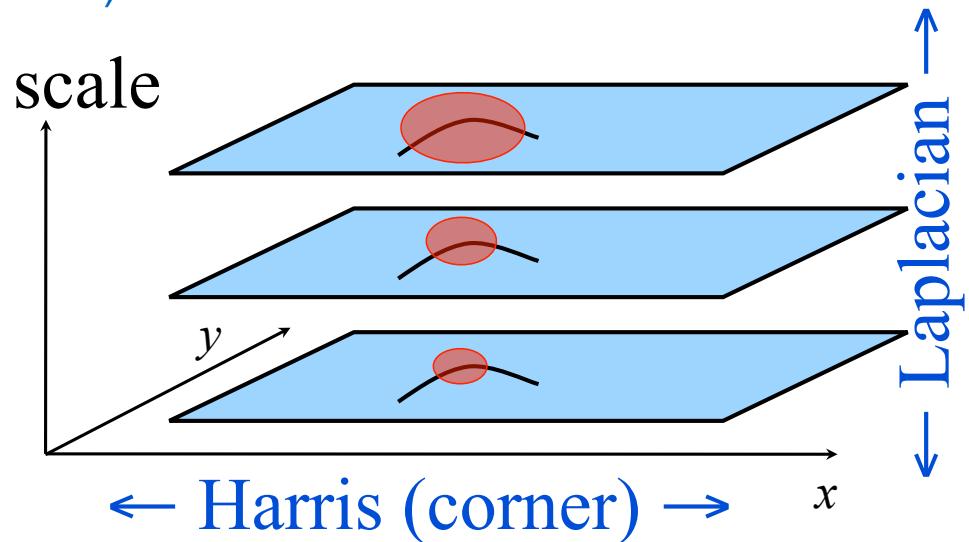

# Scale Invariant Detectors

Harris-Laplacian

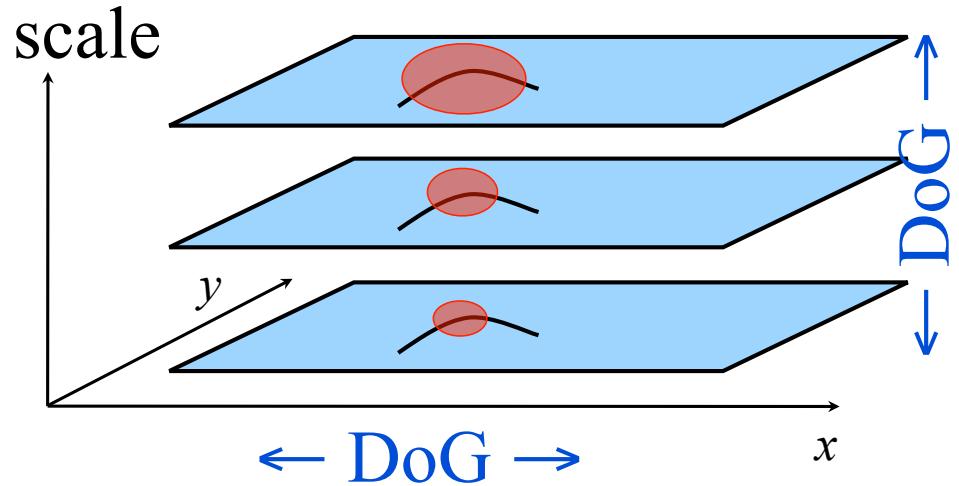
Find local maximum of:

Harris corner detector in space (image coordinates)

Laplacian in scale



- **SIFT (Lowe)**  
*Find local maximum of:*
  - Difference of Gaussians in space and scale

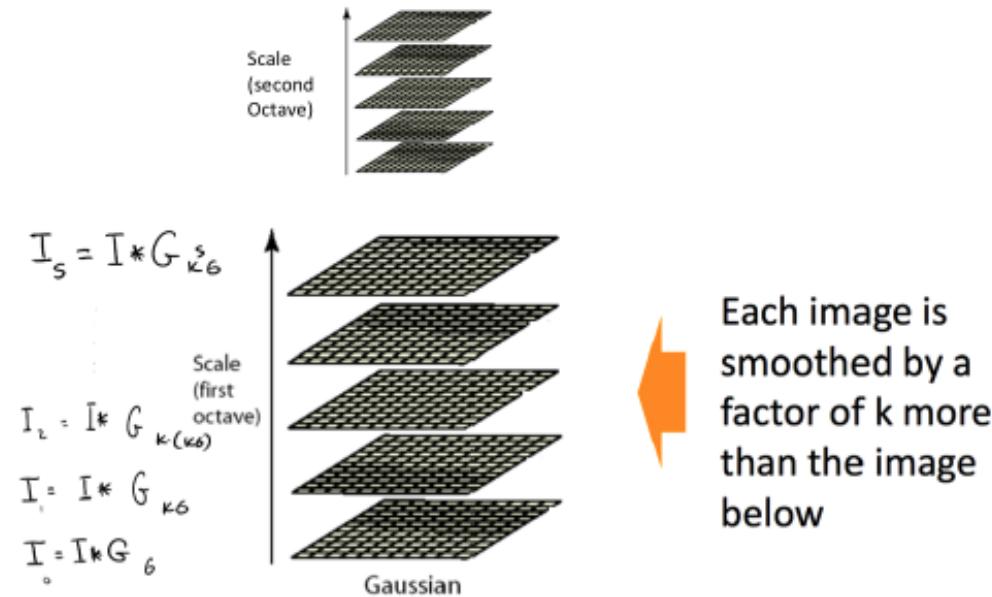


# D. Lowe's DoG

Compute a Gaussian Image Pyramid

Compute Difference of Gaussians at every scale

Find local maxima in scale



# D. Lowe's DoG

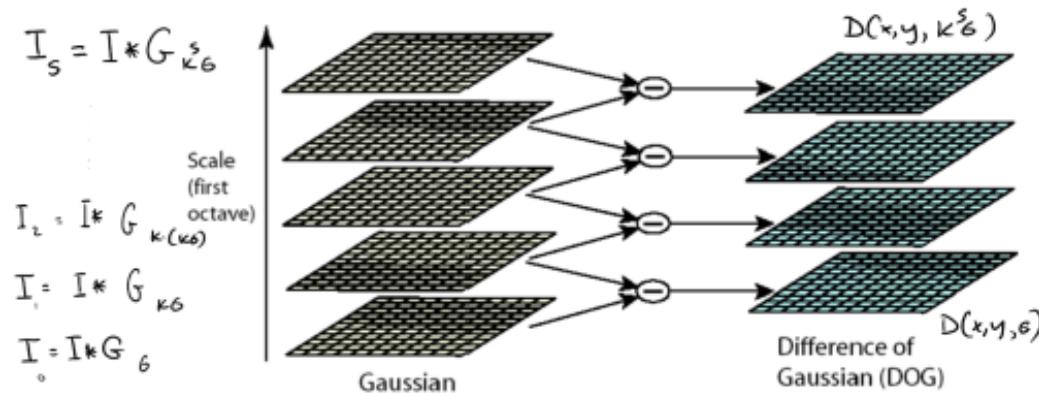
Compute a Gaussian Image Pyramid

Compute Difference of Gaussians at every scale

Find local maxima in scale

$$D(x, y, \rho) = I(x, y) * (G(x, y, k\rho) - G(x, y, \rho))$$

for  $\rho = \{\sigma, k\sigma, k^2\sigma, \dots, k^{s-1}\sigma\}$ ,  $k = 2^{1/s}$

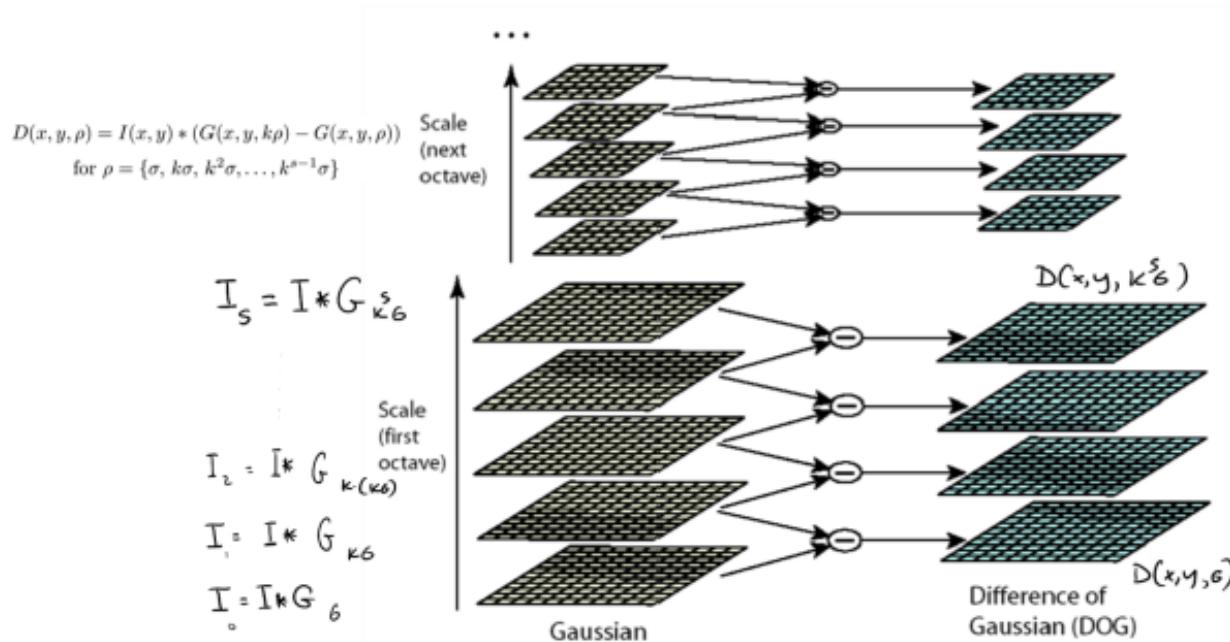


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Compute Difference of Gaussians at every scale

Find local maxima in scale



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Compute a Gaussian Image Pyramid

Compute Difference of Gaussians at every scale

Find local maxima in scale

